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jc520 U.S. PTO

**UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL
(Large Entity)***(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))*Docket No.
13458 (JP9 1999-0060)

Total Pages in this Submission

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTSBox Patent Application
Washington, D.C. 20231

Transmitted herewith for filing under 35 U.S.C. 111(a) and 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) is a new utility patent application for an invention entitled:

ALTERATION DETECTION APPARATUS AND METHOD THEREOF

and invented by:

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Norishige Morimoto
Kohichi Kamijoh

jc398 U.S. PTO

09/548377

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Enclosed are:

Application Elements

1. ☒ Filing fee as calculated and transmitted as described below
2. ☒ Specification having 74 pages and including the following:
 - a. ☒ Descriptive Title of the Invention
 - b. ☐ Cross References to Related Applications *(if applicable)*
 - c. ☐ Statement Regarding Federally-sponsored Research/Development *(if applicable)*
 - d. ☐ Reference to Microfiche Appendix *(if applicable)*
 - e. ☒ Background of the Invention
 - f. ☒ Brief Summary of the Invention
 - g. ☒ Brief Description of the Drawings *(if drawings filed)*
 - h. ☒ Detailed Description
 - i. ☒ Claim(s) as Classified Below
 - j. ☒ Abstract of the Disclosure

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Application Elements (Continued)

3. ☒ Drawing(s) *(when necessary as prescribed by 35 USC 113)*
- a. ☒ Formal Number of Sheets 24
- b. ☐ Informal Number of Sheets _____
4. ☒ Oath or Declaration
- a. ☒ Newly executed *(original or copy)* ☐ Unexecuted
- b. ☐ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d)) *(for continuation/divisional application only)*
- c. ☒ With Power of Attorney ☐ Without Power of Attorney
- d. ☐ DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application,
see 37 C.F.R. 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
5. ☐ Incorporation By Reference *(usable if Box 4b is checked)*
The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied
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6. ☐ Computer Program in Microfiche *(Appendix)*
7. ☐ Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission *(if applicable, all must be included)*
- a. ☐ Paper Copy
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- c. ☐ Statement Verifying Identical Paper and Computer Readable Copy

Accompanying Application Parts

8. ☒ Assignment Papers *(cover sheet & document(s))*
9. ☐ 37 CFR 3.73(B) Statement *(when there is an assignee)*
10. ☐ English Translation Document *(if applicable)*
11. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement/PTO-1449 ☒ Copies of IDS Citations
12. ☐ Preliminary Amendment
13. ☒ Acknowledgment postcard
14. ☒ Certificate of Mailing
- ☐ First Class ☒ Express Mail *(Specify Label No.):* EL357933192US

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Accompanying Application Parts (Continued)

15. ☒ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) *(if foreign priority is claimed)*

16. ☒ Additional Enclosures *(please identify below):*

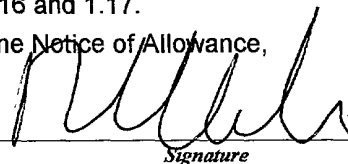
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Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00
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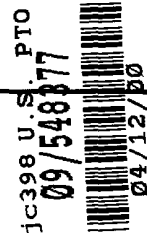
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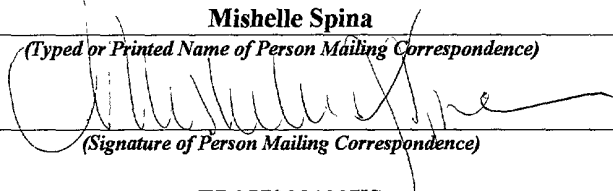
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ALTERATION DETECTION APPARATUS AND METHOD THEREOF

Background of the Invention

5

Technical Field

The present invention relates to a contents alteration
detection apparatus and a method thereof for embedding
authentication data including copyright information
imperceptibly in contents data such as image data and
10 detecting which part of the contents alteration was added
to by using the embedded authentication data.

Prior Art

For instance, International Publication No. WO97/49235
15 discloses a method for embedding copyright information
and so on (hereafter, also generally referred to as
authentication information) in contents data such as
image data by pixel block coding (PBC) in a visually
imperceptible manner (hereafter, the manner of
20 imperceptibly embedding an authentication method in
contents data is also referred to as the "electronic
watermarking method").

In addition, International Publication No. WO98/116928
25 discloses a method for prohibiting alteration of image
data to effectively protect publications by applying the
electronic watermarking method disclosed in WO97/49235
and so on.

30 Furthermore, Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No.
Hei10-164549 discloses a method for detecting alteration
of image data by improving the electronic watermarking

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method disclosed in WO97/49235 and so on so as to embed authentication information in image data in an integral and inseparable manner.

5 Moreover, in addition to these documents, Japanese Unexamined Patent Publications No. Hei09-151747, Hei10-83310, Hei10-106149, Hei10-161933, Hei10-164349, Hei10-285562, Hei10-334272, Hei-240626, Hei10-240129 and so on also disclose inventions related to the electronic
10 watermarking method.

By the methods disclosed in these documents, authentication information is embedded using a hush function and so on to detect whether or not alteration
15 being added to image data. If alteration is performed by using a hush function to a part of image data in which authentication information is embedded, this alteration influences the entire image data. Thus, while this method can detect alteration being added to some part of
20 image data, it cannot concretely detect and indicate which part of the image data the alteration is added to.

Summary of the Invention

The present invention was made in the light of the above-mentioned problem of the background arts, and an object
25 of the invention is to provide a contents alteration detection apparatus and a method thereof not only capable of detecting whether or not alteration being added to contents data but also capable of further detecting which
30 part of the contents data the alteration is added to.

1
The contents alteration detection apparatus involved in
the present invention is a contents alteration detection
apparatus having a data filling apparatus and a detection
apparatus, the data filling apparatus filling certain
5 embedding data to contents data being objective to embed
the embedding data, the detection apparatus detecting
whether alteration was added to the contents data or not,
the data filling apparatus, comprising a contents data
dividing means for dividing at least a part of the
10 contents data into a plurality of first blocks and a data
filling means for filling each of certain first embedding
data to each of the divided first blocks to generate a
plurality of second blocks, the detection apparatus,
comprising a data extrDCTing means for extrDCTing the
15 embedding data filled in each of at least a part of the
second blocks (second embedding data) and an alteration
detecting means for detecting whether or not alteration
was added to each of at least a part of the second blocks
based on the extrDCTed second embedding data.

20 Preferably, the contents alteration detection apparatus
has a data filling apparatus and a detection apparatus,
the data filling apparatus filling certain embedding data
to image data, the detection apparatus detecting whether
25 alteration was added to the image data or not, the data
filling apparatus, comprising an image dividing means for
dividing the image data into a plurality of first image
blocks and a data filling means for filling each of
certain first embedding data to each of the divided first
30 image blocks to generate a plurality of second image
blocks, the detection apparatus, comprising a data
extrDCTing means for extrDCTing embedding data filled in

each of the second image blocks (second embedding data) and an alteration detecting means for detecting whether or not alteration was added to each of the second image blocks based on the extrDCTed second embedding data.

5

Preferably, the image dividing means divides the image data into the plurality of first image blocks containing a plurality of unit data respectively and the data filling means adjusts a relationship between or among a mutually corresponding plurality of the unit data values contained in each of mutually corresponding two or more of the first image blocks so that it represents the first embedding data according to a certain rule, filling the first embedding data to each of the plurality of first image blocks to generate the second image blocks.

10

15

Preferably, the data filling means, in the case that alteration was added to any of the second image blocks, adjusts the mutually corresponding plurality of unit data values contained in the second image blocks to which alteration was added so that the values do not comply with the certain rule.

20

Preferably, the data extrDCTing means extrDCTs as the second embedding data, from each of the plurality of second image blocks, the data represented according to the certain rule by the relationship between or among the plurality of unit data values contained in each of the second image blocks.

25

30

Preferably, the alteration detecting means detects whether or not alteration was added to each of the second

image blocks based on results of comparison between the embedded first embedding data and the extrDCTed second embedding data.

5 Preferably, the first image blocks and the second image blocks are conversion blocks that contain the unit data, and also contain one or more sets of conversion coefficients acquired by dividing image data into certain processing blocks and converting it from a space area
10 into a frequency area, respectively.

Preferably, the first image blocks and the second image blocks are DCT blocks that contain the unit data, and also contain plural sets of DCT coefficients acquired by
15 dividing image data into certain DCT blocks and performing discrete cosine transformation (DCT) process on it.

The alteration detection apparatus involved in the
20 present invention first divides contents data to be processed into a plurality of parts.

The contents data are voice data or image data at an accident location for instance, so it can no longer be
25 used as evidence if alteration is added.

Next, the alteration detection apparatus involved in the present invention embeds embedding data (so-called electronic watermark) in each of plural parts of the
30 above divided contents data by a certain method used for alteration detection and neither influences embedding of data in any other part nor is influenced by any other

part when detecting alteration. Namely, the embedding data is embedded in each of plural parts of the contents data in a form closed in each of such parts.

5 Lastly, the alteration detection apparatus involved in the present invention detects the data embedded in each of the plural parts of the contents data in a form closed in each of such parts by processing it in a process closed in each of such parts, and thus it detects which
10 part of the contents data alteration was added.

Here, the method by which the alteration detection apparatus involved in the present invention divides image data and embeds an electronic watermark (embedding data)
15 in the divided image data can be any method as long as it can be performed in a closed manner to each of the divided image data.

However, as it is necessary to clarify the description,
20 an embodiment is given below. It is a case, for instance, where the alteration detection apparatus involved in the present invention divides image data compressed and encoded by the JPEG method into a plurality of sets (image blocks) each of which includes
25 plural sets of DCT coefficients, and embeds an electronic watermark to each of these sets to allow alteration detection for each set, and thus it detects whether alteration was added to the image data or not for each of these sets.

30 Also, while it is possible either to have the alteration detection apparatus involved in the present invention

detect alteration by embedding the embedding data
(electronic watermark) in a part of image data or to
allow no match between the area in which the embedding
data is embedded and the area where detection of
5 alteration is performed, the following is an embodiment
of alteration performed by embedding the embedding data
in the entire image data.

10 In addition, there is an embodiment where, as the DCT
coefficients being objective to embed the embedding data
(electronic watermark) by the alteration detection
apparatus involved in the present invention, for
instance, luminance component (Y) of color image data is
15 rendered in a plurality of DCT blocks (macro blocks) of
88-pixel composition, and the DCT coefficients acquired
by performing DCT process on these DCT blocks are used.

Also, as a method for selecting sets each of which
includes plural sets of DCT coefficients, a method is
20 thinkable, such as randomly selecting DCT coefficients by
using a random number to make a set or simply selecting
neighboring DCT coefficients to make a set. Unless
otherwise specified, however, the embodiment described
hereafter is the simplest case which is the latter of the
25 above two examples, namely a case where each set of DCT
coefficients is a pair including two sets (neighboring
two) of DCT coefficients acquired by simply DCT-
converting two neighboring DCT blocks.

30 In the alteration detection apparatus in accordance with
the present invention, a data filling apparatus embeds
embedding data (electronic watermark) in image data to

allow alteration detection for each pair of DCT coefficients.

In a data filling means, for instance, an image dividing means decodes in Huffman code compressed image data compressed and encoded by the JPEG method, and accepts DCT coefficients of luminance component (Y) out of the three types of image data components resulting from the decoding process to associate with the two neighboring DCT coefficients, and generates a pair comprised of two sets of the associated DCT coefficients (first image block).

A data filling means takes out one or more of the two sets of DCT coefficients (unit data) contained in each pair (first image block) mutually associating them (a plurality of unit data is selected from a pair since one or more are taken out from each of the two sets of DCT coefficients).

In addition, a data filling means generates a random number by using key information, and uses the generated random number to scramble 96-bit embedding data, for instance.

A data filling means associates each of a pair (first image block) with each bit of the scrambled embedding data (first embedding data).

Furthermore, a data filling means adjusts values of the DCT coefficients so that a relationship between the DCT coefficients (unit data) taken out of each of the two

sets of them included in a pair (first image block) and mutually corresponding between these two sets represents according to a certain rule the value (1 or 0) of the embedding data's bit (first embedding data) associated with the pair (first image block) that included these DCT coefficients, and thus it embeds embedding data.

A method for selecting DCT coefficients from the two sets of DCT coefficients included in a pair (first image block) may be, for instance, either to select DCT coefficients based on a preset and fixed corresponding relationship or coefficients selected by randomly associating DCT coefficients based on a random number.

Unless otherwise specified, to clarify the description, the embodiment described hereafter is a case where mutually corresponding three DCT coefficients each (total six) are randomly selected from each of the two sets of DCT coefficients included in each pair (first image block), namely a case where DCT coefficients are selected from different positions in the case of different pairs and they are selected from the same positions if included in the same pair.

Thus, if the embedding data's bit is embedded in each pair, any alteration added to a pair does not influence any other pair, unlike a case where a hash function is used to embed embedding data.

Namely, if embedded in this way, alteration to a part of an image does not influence any other part of the image,

so it is possible to detect alteration added to the image part by part.

After each bit of embedding data (first embedding data) is embedded, if alteration is added, such as filling in a part of image data to erase an object seen there, the relationship between or among mutually corresponding DCT coefficients (unit data) included in a pair (second image block) of a part to which alteration was added deviates from the certain rule, and the bit of the embedding data (second embedding data) shows a different value from the bit of the embedding data (first embedding data) when it was embedded.

Also, if 96-bit embedding data (first embedding data) is embedded in a pair (first image block) of 6144 sets of DCT coefficients comprising an image comprised of 1024 bits x 768 bits, each bit of the embedding data (first embedding data) is embedded in one image data 64 times.

On the other hand, if alteration was added only to a part of small area of image data, the number of pairs that do not represent the bit of corresponding embedding data (first embedding data) in the part to which alteration was added should be smaller than the number of pairs that represent the bit of corresponding embedding data (first embedding data) in the part to which alteration was not added.

Accordingly, if the embedding data (second embedding data) is extrDCTed from an image to which alteration was possibly added, and decision by majority is made as to

which value of 1 or 0 each of 64 pairs corresponding to the same bit as that of the embedding data (first embedding data) represents according to the certain rule, it may be determined that the value represented by the majority of pairs is the value of the embedding data (first embedding data) filled by the data filling apparatus.

Likewise, as a result of this decision by majority, it can be estimated that alteration was added to the positions of the pairs (second image block) that became minority.

The detection apparatus involved in the present invention exploits such nature of embedding data, and it extrDCTs, from each of the pairs of DCT coefficients (second embedding data) to which alteration was possibly added, the embedding data (second embedding data) of which value may be changed from the initially embedded value as a result of alteration.

In addition, the detection apparatus detects, based on these extrDCTion results, to which pairs of DCT coefficients (second image data) alteration was added, namely, to which part of image data alteration was added.

The data extrDCTing means extrDCTs a value represented according to the certain rule by the mutually corresponding DCT coefficients (unit data) contained in each of two sets of DCT coefficients of the pair (second image block) to which alteration was possibly added after the embedding data (first embedding data) was embedded by

the data filling apparatus involved in the present invention.

5 The alteration detecting means makes decision by majority as to which value of 1 or 0 a plurality of pairs (second image block) corresponding to the same bit as that of the embedding data represent, and it determines that the value represented by the majority of pairs is the value of the embedding data (first embedding data) when it was
10 embedded, and also determines that alteration was added to any pair (second image block) representing a different value from this embedding data.

15 The data filling apparatus involved in the present invention is a data filling apparatus for filling certain embedding data to image data for detecting whether alteration was added to the image data or not, the detection was performed by detecting whether or not alteration was added to each of the second image blocks
20 based on the second embedding data filled in each of the image blocks, the data filling apparatus comprising an image dividing means for dividing image data into a plurality of first image blocks, and a data filling means for filling each of certain first embedding data to each
25 of said divided first image blocks to generate the plurality of second image blocks.

30 The detection apparatus involved in the present invention is a detection apparatus for detecting whether or not alteration was added to each of a plurality of second image blocks generated by dividing image data into a plurality of first image blocks and filling each of

certain first embedding data to each of the divided first image blocks comprising a data extracting means for extracting embedding data filled in each of the second image blocks (second embedding data), and an alteration detecting means for detecting whether or not alteration was added to each of the second image blocks based on the extracted second embedding data.

The alteration detection method involved in the present invention is a contents alteration detection method for filling certain embedding data to contents data being objective to embed the embedding data and detecting whether alteration was added to the contents data or not while dividing the contents data into a plurality of first data blocks, filling each of certain first embedding data to each of the divided first data blocks to generate a plurality of second blocks, extracting the embedding data filled in each of the second blocks (second embedding data) and detecting whether or not alteration was added to each of the second blocks based on the extracted second embedding data.

Also, in a contents alteration detection apparatus having a data filling apparatus and a detection apparatus, wherein the data filling apparatus fill certain embedding data to image data and the detection apparatus detects whether alteration was added to the image data or not, the first medium involved in the present invention carries a program for having a computer execute the steps of dividing image data into a plurality of first image blocks, filling each of certain first embedding data to each of the divided first image blocks to generate a

plurality of second image blocks, extracting embedding data filled in each of the second image blocks (second embedding data), and detecting whether or not alteration was added to each of the second image blocks based on the extracted second embedding data.

Also, in a data filling apparatus for filling certain embedding data to image data so as to detect whether or not alteration was added to image data, the detection is performed, based on second embedding data filled to each of a plurality of second image blocks contained in the image data, by detecting whether or not alteration was added to each of the image blocks, the second medium involved in the present invention carries a program for having a computer execute the steps of dividing image data into a plurality of first image blocks, and filing each of certain first embedding data to each of the divided first image blocks to generate a plurality of second image blocks.

Also, in a detection apparatus for detecting whether or not alteration was added to each of a plurality of second image blocks generated by dividing image data into a plurality of first image blocks and filing each of certain first embedding data to each of the divided first image blocks, the third medium involved in the present invention carries a program for having a computer execute the steps of extracting embedding data filled in each of the second image blocks (second embedding data) and detecting whether or not alteration was added to each of the second image blocks based on the extracted second embedding data.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Preferred embodiments of the present invention will now be described, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

5

Fig. 1 is a diagram showing configuration of image alteration detection apparatus for implementing the first alteration detecting method involved in the present invention.

10

Fig. 2 is a diagram showing configuration of embedding/detection program implemented by image alteration detection apparatus shown in Fig. 1 to implement the alteration detecting method involved in the present invention.

15

Fig. 3 is a diagram showing configuration of embedding part 30 shown in Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a diagram showing configuration of data embedding part 32 shown in Fig. 3.

20

Fig. 5 is a diagram illustrating non-compressed image data photographed by the digital camera (Fig. 1).

Fig. 6 (A) is a diagram showing a part of non-compressed image data illustrated in Fig. 5, (B) is a diagram showing DCT blocks (macro blocks) contained in the non-compressed image data (part) illustrated in (A), and (C) is a diagram showing pixels of 88-Pixel configuration contained in each of the DCT blocks shown in (B).

25

Fig. 7 is a diagram showing compressed image data of the JPEG method generated by the digital camera shown in Fig. 1.

30

Fig. 8 is a diagram showing the Huffman decoding process of decoding part shown in Fig. 3.

Fig. 9 (A) is a diagram showing the DCT coefficients of intensity signal Y acquired by decoding part by decoding in Huffman code compressed image data input from the digital camera, (B) is a diagram showing a method for associating mutually neighboring two sets out of the DCT coefficients of intensity signal Y shown in (A), and (C) is a diagram showing the pairs of the DCT coefficients associated by the method shown in (B).

Fig. 10 is a diagram illustrating mutually corresponding DCT coefficients selected from each of the DCT blocks (blocks 1 and 2) included in one pair (Fig. 9 (A) and (B)) by the embedding part shown in Fig. 2 and 3.

Fig. 11 (A) and (B) are diagrams illustrating a case where, in order to embed the embedding data's bit (value 1) in each of the selected DCT coefficients of blocks 1 and 2 as illustrated in Fig. 10, it is necessary to change numeric values of the DCT coefficients.

Fig. 12 is a diagram illustrating a case where, in order to embed the embedding data's bit (value 1) in each of the selected DCT coefficients of blocks 1 and 2 as illustrated in Fig. 10, it is not necessary to change numeric values of the DCT coefficients.

Fig. 13 (A) and (B) are diagrams illustrating a case where, in order to embed the embedding data's bit (value 0) in the selected DCT coefficients of each of blocks 1 and 2 as illustrated in Fig. 10, it is necessary to change numeric values of the DCT coefficients.

Fig. 14 is a diagram illustrating a case where, in order to embed the embedding data's bit (value 0) in the selected DCT coefficients of each of blocks 1 and 2 as illustrated in Fig. 10, it is not necessary to change numeric values of the DCT coefficients.

Fig. 15 is a diagram illustrating an embedding table used by the embedding part (Fig. 2 and 3) to embed embedding data in DCT blocks.

Fig. 16 is a diagram showing the process (S10) of the coefficient manipulation part shown in Fig. 4 to embed embedding data in a pair of DCT blocks.

Fig. 17 is a diagram showing the structure of the extraction part illustrated in Fig. 2.

Fig. 18 is a diagram showing the structure of the embedding data extraction part illustrated in Fig. 13.

Fig. 19 (A) is a drawing illustrating an image wherein JPEG data in which embedding data was embedded by the embedding part (Fig. 2, 3) is extended, and (B) is a drawing illustrating alteration added to the image shown in (A), and (C) is a drawing illustrating the image after alteration.

Fig. 20 is a drawing illustrating an image that shows a binary image indicating the part of alteration synthesized with the original image.

Fig. 21 is a drawing illustrating an image that shows the range in which alteration was added, synthesized with the original image by clustering process.

Fig. 22 is a diagram showing, in the case that no alteration/error was added to JPEG data generated by the embedding part (Fig. 2 and 3), the value of the bit that the extraction part extracts from each pair contained in JPEG data with no alteration, etc. added.

Fig. 23 is a diagram illustrating, in the case that alteration/error was added to JPEG data generated by the embedding part (Fig. 2 and 3), the values of the bits extracted by the extraction part from the pairs included in the JPEG data with alteration, etc. added.

Fig. 24 is a diagram illustrating, when the extraction part (Fig. 17 and 18) detects the pairs with alteration, etc. added as shown in Fig. 23 from the JPEG data with alteration added as shown in Fig. 19, a binary image showing the positions of the pairs with alteration added in the image.

Fig. 25 (A) to (D) are diagrams illustrating, when the extraction part (Fig. 17 and 18) detects the pairs with alteration, etc. added as shown in Fig. 23 from the JPEG data with alteration added as shown in Fig. 19, a clustering image illustrating in what range in the image the pairs with alteration added exist.

Fig. 26 is a flowchart showing processing of the data extraction part shown in Fig. 18 to extract embedding data's bits embedded in each pair.

Fig. 27 is a flowchart showing the embedding process (S20) of embedding data by the image alteration detection apparatus shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 28 is a flowchart showing the extracting process (S22) of embedding data by the image alteration detection apparatus shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 29 is a diagram showing configuration of an alteration detection system connected with a plurality of image alteration detection apparatuses each comprising an image DB.

Fig. 30 is a diagram illustrating the structure of an embedding/detection program that the image alteration detection apparatus shown in Fig. 1 runs to implement the second alteration detection method involved in the present invention.

Fig. 31 is a drawing illustrating non-compressed image data that is a subject of processing by the embedding/detection program shown in Fig. 30.

Fig. 32 is a diagram showing a pixel block comprised of 22 pixels that is a unit of processing by the embedding/detection program shown in Fig. 30.

Fig. 33 is a diagram showing non-compressed image data (Fig. 31) that is divided into pixel blocks comprised of 22 pixels (Fig. 32).

Fig. 34 is a diagram showing association of embedding data's bits with each of the pixel blocks shown in Fig. 33.

Fig. 35 (A), (B) are diagrams showing a process of the embedding part shown in Fig. 30 to embed the bit of value 1 in the pixel block shown in Fig. 32, showing a case where a pixel value is manipulated.

Fig. 36 is a diagram showing a process of the embedding part shown in Fig. 30 to embed the bit of value 1 in the pixel block shown in Fig. 32, showing a case where a pixel value is not manipulated.

Fig. 37 (A), (B) are diagrams showing a process of the embedding part shown in Fig. 30 to embed the bit of value 0 in the pixel block shown in Fig. 32, showing a case where a pixel value is manipulated.

Fig. 38 is a diagram showing a process of the embedding part shown in Fig. 30 to embed the bit of value 0 in the pixel block shown in Fig. 32, showing a case where a pixel value is not manipulated.

Fig. 39 is a diagram illustrating the process of the extraction part shown in Fig. 30.

Detailed Description of the Preferred
Embodiments of the Invention

Hereafter, the first embodiment of the present invention
5 is described.

Fig. 1 is a diagram showing configuration of image
alteration detection apparatus 1 for implementing the
alteration detecting method in accordance with the
10 present invention.

As shown in Fig. 1, image alteration detection apparatus
1 comprises display 100 that is a CRT display or an LCD,
etc., input unit 102 including a keyboard, mouse, etc.,
15 digital camera interface (camera IF) IF 104, memory card
interface (memory card IF) 106, storage device 108 that
is an MO drive or a CD drive, and the computer body (PC
body) 110 including memory 112 and the microprocessor
(CPU) 114, etc., and communication device 116 is further
20 added as required.

Namely, image alteration detection apparatus 1 adopts a
configuration wherein camera IF 104 and memory card IF
106 are added to an ordinary computer.
25

Image alteration detection apparatus 1 loads into memory
112 and runs embedding/detection program 2 (described
later referring to Fig. 2) supplied to storage device 108
being recorded on a magneto-optical disk (MO) or a
30 compact disk (CD) by these components, and embeds an
electronic watermark (embedding data) in image data and
detects alteration (regardless of whether it is

artificially added or caused by an accident such as data corruption).

Namely, image alteration detection apparatus 1 accepts
5 via camera IF 104 an image photographed by digital camera
140 such as compressed image data compressed and encoded
by the JPEG method. Or it accepts via memory card IF 106
compressed image data recorded on memory card 142 by
digital camera 140.

10 When image alteration detection apparatus 1 accepts
compressed image data, it embeds an electronic watermark
(embedding data) in the compressed image data and
detects, by using the embedded electronic watermark
15 (embedding data), to which part of the data alteration
was added.

Fig. 2 is a diagram showing configuration of
embedding/detection program 2 implemented by image
20 alteration detection apparatus 1 shown in Fig. 1 to
implement the first alteration detecting method.

As shown in Fig. 2, embedding/detection program 2 is
comprised of embedding/extraction part 3, key information
25 database (DB) 22 and image database (DB) 24, where
embedding/extraction part 3 comprises embedding data
generation part 20, control part 26, embedding part 30,
extraction part 40 and OS 50.

30 OS 50 is operating system software such as Windows (a
product name by Microsoft Corp.) That controls running of
each component of embedding/detection program 2.

OS 50 also supplies data necessary for processing of each component of embedding/detection program 2, for example, supplying data necessary for generating an electronic watermark (embedding data) including serial number of memory card 142 and time etc. to embedding data generation part 20.

Control part 26 displays a GUI image (not illustrated) for operations on display 100, accepts user operations to the displayed GUI image and supplies operation data showing accepted operations to each component of embedding/detection program 2 as required.

Control part 26 also controls operation of each component of embedding/detection program 2 according to the accepted user operations.

Image DB 24 stores/manages compressed image data (JPEG data) in which embedding part 30 embedded embedding data in record medium 120 inserted into storage device 108 or memory card 142 inserted into memory card IF 106, and reads stored/managed image data and outputs it to extraction part 40.

Key information DB 22 stores/manages in storage device 108 and so on key information associating JPEG data managed by image DB 22 with a key (such as a numeric value of 64 bits) used by embedding part 30 to generate a random number when embedding data in this JPEG data, and reads stored/managed key information and outputs it to embedding part 30 and extraction part 40.

Embedding data generation part 20 generates 96-bit embedding data from data such as a memory serial number input from OS 50, and outputs it to embedding part 30.

5 Fig. 3 is a diagram showing configuration of embedding part 30 illustrated in Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a diagram showing configuration of data embedding part 32 illustrated in Fig. 3.

10

As shown in Fig. 3 and Fig. 4, embedding part 30 is comprised of decoding part 300, data embedding part 32 and encoding part 304, and data embedding part 32 is comprised of image dividing part 320, random number generation part 322, positioning part 324, scramble part 326 and coefficient manipulation part 328.

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Based on these components, embedding part 30 first renders as a plurality of pairs (first image block) each of which includes two sets of DCT coefficients the DCT coefficients of luminance component Y for instance, out of the DCT coefficients comprised of 8 pixels x 8 pixels per set (64 pixels per set) of chrominance components Cb, Cr and luminance component Y comprising color compressed Image data.

25

30

Embedding part 30 further embeds in each of these pairs the 96-bit embedding data generated by embedding data generation part 20, for instance, as each bit of data scrambled based on a random number generated by a 16-bit linear congruence method (first embedding data; for simpler description, such "scrambled embedding data" is

also referred to merely as "embedding data" hereafter) by using key information supplied by key information DB 22 (Fig. 2).

5 Details of processing of embedding part 30 is described by further referring to Fig. 5 to Fig. 16.

Fig. 5 is a diagram illustrating non-compressed image data photographed by digital camera 140 (Fig. 1).

10

Fig. 6 (A) is a diagram showing a part of non-compressed image data illustrated in Fig. 5, Fig. 6 (B) is a diagram showing DCT blocks (macro blocks) contained in the non-compressed image data (part) illustrated in Fig. 6 (A) and Fig. 6 (C) is a diagram showing 8 x 8 pixels of configuration contained in each of the DCT blocks shown in Fig. 6 (B).

15

Moreover, it is basically necessary to distinguish a DCT block from DCT coefficients of 8 x 8 configuration. For simpler description, however, DCT coefficients of 8 x 8 composition are also referred to as a DCT block, and each DCT coefficient included in a DCT block of 8 x 8 composition is referred to as a DCT coefficient hereafter.

20

25

Digital camera 140 (Fig. 1), for instance, photographs a person and a landscape, generates non-compressed color image data illustrated in Fig. 5, and further compresses and encodes it by the JPEG method.

30

Namely, as illustrated in Fig. 6 (A) to (C), digital camera 140 divides each of luminance component Y and chrominance components Cr, Cb contained in acquired non-compressed image data into DCT blocks (also referred to as macro blocks) containing 8 x 8 (64) pixels respectively, DCT-converts the divided DCT blocks and further renders them in Huffman code to generate compressed image data of the JPEG method, which is output to embedding part 30 (Fig. 2 and 3) of embedding/detection program 2 run by PC body 110 (Fig. 1) via camera IF 104 or via memory card 142 and memory card IF 106.

Fig. 7 is a diagram showing compressed image data of the JPEG method generated by digital camera 140 illustrated in Fig. 1.

As shown in Fig. 7, digital camera 140 generates compressed image data of the JPEG method in the form of image data itself and further as data such as a quantization table and a Huffman table required for reverse quantization and decoding processes at extension decoding and a file (JPEG file) containing tags for identifying each of these data.

Fig. 8 is a diagram showing the Huffman decoding process of decoding part 300 illustrated in Fig. 3.

Fig. 9 (A) is a diagram showing the DCT coefficients of intensity signal Y acquired by decoding part 300 by decoding in Huffman code compressed image data input from digital camera 140 Fig. 9 (B) is a diagram showing a

method for associating mutually neighboring two sets out
of the DCT coefficients of intensity signal Y illustrated
in Fig. 9 (A), and Fig. 9 (C) is a diagram showing the
pairs of the DCT coefficients associated by the method
illustrated in Fig. 9 (B).

Embedding part 30, as shown in Fig. 8, first decodes in
Huffman code the input JPEG-method compressed image data
by using the Huffman table contained in the JPEG file
(Fig. 7) to obtain an MCU (minimum code unit) of
luminance component Y and chrominance components Cr, Cb.

This MCU actually DCT-processes non-compressed image
data, and further handles quantized data by using a
quantization table. For simpler description, however, it
is merely referred to as a DCT block hereafter.

Also, each coefficient contained in an MCU is a value of
a DCT coefficient quantized by using a quantization
table.

For simpler description, however, it is merely referred
to as a DCT coefficient hereafter.

Furthermore, embedding part 30 renders, out of these
acquired DCT blocks, 12288 DCT blocks (1, 1 to 96, 128)
of luminance component Y shown in Fig. 9 (A) into 6144
(12288/2) pairs of neighboring two (blocks 1 and 2) as
shown in Fig. 9 (B) and (C).

Embedding part 30 repeatedly associates each bit of 96-
bit embedding data scrambled by a random number as

mentioned above 64 times with each of thus acquired 6144
(96 x 64) pairs.

Fig. 10 is a diagram illustrating mutually corresponding
DCT coefficients selected from each of the DCT blocks
(blocks 1 and 2) included in one pair (Fig. 9 (A) and (B))
by the embedding part 30 shown in Fig. 2 and 3.

Moreover, Fig. 10 illustrates a case where three DCT
coefficients of the same position (2,3), (3,2) and (3, 3)
are selected from each of the two DCT blocks (blocks 1
and 2) included in pair ($1 \leq i \leq 6144$).

Embedding part 30 randomly selects, for instance, by
using a random number generated as mentioned above from a
key supplied from key information DB 22 (Fig. 2), three
mutually corresponding DCT coefficients ($A_1, A_2, B_1, B_2,$
 C_1, C_2 ; unit data) within the DCT blocks (blocks 1 and 2)
per pair as shown in Fig. 10. In other words, embedding
part 30 selects, for embedding the bit, DCT coefficients
of the same position from the DCT blocks (blocks 1 and 2)
contained in the same pair, but it selects DCT
coefficients of different positions among different
pairs.

Fig. 11 (A) and (B) are diagrams illustrating a case
where, in order to embed the embedding data's bit (value
1) in each of the selected DCT coefficients of blocks 1
and 2 as illustrated in Fig. 10, it is necessary to
change numeric values of the DCT coefficients.

Fig. 12 is a diagram illustrating a case where, in order to embed the embedding data's bit (value 1) in each of the selected DCT coefficients of blocks 1 and 2 as illustrated in Fig. 10, it is not necessary to change numeric values of the DCT coefficients.

Fig. 13 (A) and (B) are diagrams illustrating a case where, in order to embed the embedding data's bit (value 0) in the selected DCT coefficients of each of blocks 1 and 2 as illustrated in Fig. 10, it is necessary to change numeric values of the DCT coefficients.

Fig. 14 is a diagram illustrating a case where, in order to embed the embedding data's bit (value 0) in the selected DCT coefficients of each of blocks 1 and 2 as illustrated in Fig. 10, it is not necessary to change numeric values of the DCT coefficients.

Embedding part 30 adjusts, for instance, as illustrated in Fig. 10, the relationship among mutually corresponding DCT coefficients (A_1 , A_2 , B_1 , B_2 , C_1 , C_2) selected from the two DCT blocks (blocks 1 and 2) of pair i so that it complies with the rule illustrated in the following Table 1 (rule 1-1 and 1-2) according to the value of the embedding data's bit associated with each of the pairs as mentioned above and as illustrated in Fig. 11 (A) and (B), in Fig. 12, Fig. 13 (A) and (B) and Fig. 14, and thus it embeds the value (1,0) of the corresponding embedding data's bit in each pair.

Table 1

A rule showing the relationship among DCT coefficients:

If the value of the embedding data's bit associated with a pair is 1:

5 $(A_1 < A_2 \&\& B_1 < B_2 \&\& C_1 < C_2) \parallel$
 $(A_1 < A_2 \&\& B_1 < B_2 \&\& C_1 < C_2) \parallel$
 $(A_1 < A_2 \&\& B_1 < B_2 \&\& C_1 < C_2) \parallel$
 $(A_1 < A_2 \&\& B_1 < B_2 \&\& C_1 < C_2)$

... (Rule 1-1)

10 If the value of the embedding data's bit associated with a pair is 0:

$(A_1 < A_2 \&\& B_1 < B_2 \&\& C_1 > C_2) \parallel$
 $(A_1 < A_2 \&\& B_1 < B_2 \&\& C_1 < C_2) \parallel$
 $(A_1 < A_2 \&\& B_1 < B_2 \&\& C_1 < C_2) \parallel$
15 $(A_1 < A_2 \&\& B_1 < B_2 \&\& C_1 > C_2)$

Provided that, in the above rules 1-1 and 1-2, $X \&\& Y$ indicates that both conditions X and Y are met, and $X \parallel Y$ indicates that one of the conditions X and Y is met.

20 For instance, as illustrated in Fig. 11 (A), if the value of the embedding data's bit associated with pair i is 1, and the values of the mutually corresponding DCT coefficients $A_1, A_2, B_1, B_2, C_1, C_2$ of the two DCT blocks
25 (blocks 1 and 2) of pair i are 4, 4, 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively, the relationship among the values of these DCT coefficients is $A_1 = A_2$ which meets neither 1-1 nor 1-2 of the above rules.

30 Therefore, as illustrated by circling a number in Fig. 11 (B), embedding part 30 increases the value of A_2 so that the relationship among the values of the mutually

corresponding DCT coefficients $(A_1, A_2, B_1, B_2, C_1, C_2)$ can meet the condition of $(A_1 < A_2 \& \& B_1 < B_2 \& \& C_1 < C_2)$ of the above rule 1-1, and thus it embeds the embedding data's bit of value 1.

Namely, in the case of embedding the bit of value 1 for instance, embedding part 30 always adjusts the DCT coefficients if the values of the DCT coefficients $(A_1, A_2, B_1, B_2, C_1, C_2)$ can meet the condition of $(A_1 < A_2 \& \& B_1 < B_2 \& \& C_1 < C_2)$ of the above rule 1-1 and so that the change of the values of the DCT coefficients will be minimum before and after the adjustment, and thus it embeds the embedding data's bit of value 1.

Also, for instance, as illustrated in Fig. 12, if the value of the embedding data's bit associated with pair i is 1, and the values of the mutually corresponding DCT coefficients $(A_1, A_2, B_1, B_2, C_1, C_2)$ of the two DCT blocks (blocks 1 and 2) of pair i are 3, 5, 6, 3, 5 and 4 respectively, the relationship among the values of these DCT coefficients meets the condition of $(A_1 < A_2 \& \& B_1 > B_2 \& \& C_1 > C_2)$ of the above rule 1-1.

Accordingly, in this case, embedding part 30 does not change the values of the DCT coefficients $(A_1, A_2, B_1, B_2, C_1, C_2)$ of the two DCT blocks (blocks 1 and 2) of pair i .

For instance, as illustrated in Fig. 13 (A), if the value of the embedding data's bit associated with pair i is 0, and values of the mutually corresponding DCT coefficients

($A_1, A_2, B_1, B_2, C_1, C_2$) of the two DCT blocks (blocks 1 and 2) of pair i are 4, 4, 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively, the relationship among the values of these DCT coefficients is $A_1=A_2$ which meets neither 1-1 nor 1-2 of the above rules.

Therefore, as illustrated by circling a number in Fig. 13 (B), embedding part 30 decreases the value of A_2 so that the relationship among the values of the mutually corresponding DCT coefficients ($A_1, A_2, B_1, B_2, C_1, C_2$) can meet the condition of ($A_1 < A_2 \&\& B_1 < B_2 \&\& C_1 < C_2$) of the above rule 1-2, and thus it embeds the embedding data's bit of value 0.

Namely, in the case of embedding the bit of value 0 for instance, embedding part 30 always adjusts the DCT coefficients if the values of the DCT coefficients ($A_1, A_2, B_1, B_2, C_1, C_2$) do not meet the above rule 1-2, so that the relationship among these DCT coefficients can meet the condition of ($A_1 < A_2 \&\& B_1 < B_2 \&\& C_1 < C_2$) of the above rule 1-2 and so that the change of the values of the DCT coefficients will be minimum before and after the adjustment, and thus it embeds the embedding data's bit of value 0.

Also, for instance, as illustrated in Fig. 14, if the value of the embedding data's bit associated with pair 1 is 0, and the values of the mutually corresponding DCT coefficients ($A_1, A_2, B_1, B_2, C_1, C_2$) of the two DCT blocks (blocks 1 and 2) of pair i are 4, 5, 2, 3, 6 and 5 respectively, the relationship among the values of these

DCT coefficients meets the condition of
($A_1 < A_2$ & $B_1 < B_2$ & $C_1 > C_2$) of the above rule 1-2.

Accordingly, in this case, embedding part 30 does not
change the values of the DCT coefficients (A_1 , A_2 , B_1 , B_2 ,
 C_1 , C_2) of the two DCT blocks (blocks 1 and 2) of pair 1.

Fig. 15 is a diagram illustrating an embedding table used
by embedding part 30 (Fig. 2 and 3) to embed embedding
data in DCT blocks.

Moreover, while embedding data bit columns appears in
Fig. 15, these columns are shown in order to explain that
embedding data is scrambled and are not used in actual
processing.

The embedding process of embedding part 30 explained so
far is further described by referring to Fig. 15.

Embedding part 30 associates two neighboring DCT blocks
(Fig. 9 (A) to (C)) out of these 12288 DCT blocks acquired
from image data comprised of 1024 pixels x 768 pixels
(Fig. 5, 6 (A) to (C)) and makes 6144 pairs.

Embedding part 30 also scrambles 96-bit embedding data
supplied from embedding data generation part 20 (Fig. 2)
with a random number created from a key supplied from key
information DB 22, and associates each value (1,0) of the
scrambled 96-bit embedding data's bit with each of 6144
pairs 64 times by the following method to write to the
embedding data allocation column of the embedding table
as shown in Fig. 15.

Moreover, as illustrated in Fig. 15, each bit of 96-bit embedding data scrambled in different orders is associated with every consecutive 96 pairs, which means for instance, the 7th bit (1) of the embedding data is allocated to the 5th pair and 160th pair.

Hereafter, each bit of 96-bit embedding data is likewise associated with each of 96 pairs included in each set in different order for each pair acquired by sequentially dividing 6144 pairs into 64 sets x 96 pairs.

For instance, the 1st to 4th bits of 96-bit embedding data are associated with the 11th, 5th, 31st and 9th pairs in the 1st set containing the 1st to 96th pairs respectively, whereas they are associated with the 99th, 126th, 100th and 153rd pairs in the 2nd set containing the 97th to 192nd pairs respectively (illustrated in Fig. 22 later).

Also, as shown in Fig. 10, embedding part 30 uses a random number generated as mentioned above to determine which DCT coefficients (A_1 , A_2 , B_1 , B_2 , C_1 , C_2) are taken out from the two DCT blocks (blocks 1 and 2) for each pair, and writes the values of DCT coefficients so taken out in the block 1 and 2 columns of the embedding table.

As mentioned above, which DCT coefficients of 8 x 8 composition embedding part 30 takes out is not fixed for each pair.

If the above process is complete, embedding part 30 manipulates the values of DCT coefficients (A_1 , A_2 , B_1 , B_2 , C_1 , C_2) written in the block 1 and 2 columns of the

embedding table so that the DCT coefficients (A_1 , A_2 , B_1 , B_2 , C_1 , C_2) selected from DCT blocks (block 1 and 2) of each pair will represent the bit values in the embedding data allocation column of the embedding table based on the rules 1-1 and 1-2 indicated in the above Table 1.

As explained so far, embedding part 30 encodes in Huffman code again the DCT coefficients (DCT blocks) of luminance component Y in which embedding data is embedded and the DCT coefficients of chrominance components Cr, Cb so as to output them to image DB 24 (Fig. 2) as JPEG-method extensible compressed image data (JPEG data).

The components of embedding part 30 are explained by referring to Fig. 3 and 4 again.

Decoding part 300 decodes in Huffman code the JPEG data supplied via camera IF 104 or memory card IF 106 according to control of control part 26, and outputs to encoding part 304 the DCT coefficients (DCT blocks) of the two types of chrominance components Cr, Cb and outputs to data embedding part 32 the DCT coefficients of luminance component Y, out of the three types of the DCT coefficients (DCT blocks) resulting from the decoding.

Data embedding part 32 performs the embedding process of embedding data explained by referring to Fig. 9 to Fig. 15.

Hereafter, each component of data embedding part 32 is explained by referring to Fig. 4 again.

Image dividing part 320 divides into the pairs shown in Fig. 9 (B) and (C) the DCT coefficients of intensity signal Y (DCT block; Fig. 9 (A)) input from decoding part 300, and outputs them to coefficient manipulation part 328.

Random number generation part 322 generates a random number by a 16-bit linear congruence method by using a 64-bit key, for instance, input from key information DB 22 (Fig. 2), and outputs generated random number RN to positioning part 324 and scramble part 326.

Positioning part 324 determines, in each of the pairs created by image dividing part 320, which DCT coefficients of the two DCT blocks (blocks 1 and 2) is selected (positions of DCT coefficients to be selected; Fig. 10) by using random number RN input from random number generation part 322, and outputs position data indicating the determined DCT coefficients' positions to coefficient manipulation part 328.

Scramble part 326 scrambles 96-bit embedding data input from embedding data generation part 20 (Fig. 20) by using random number RN input from random number generation part 322.

This scramble process of scramble part 326 outputs to coefficient manipulation part 328 the data (scrambled embedding data, merely referred to as embedding data hereafter) that has 96 bits as a repetition unit and contains all the bits of 96-bit embedding data in

different order for each repetition unit, containing 64 units of this repetition.

Coefficient manipulation part 328 first creates and embedding table shown in Fig. 15.

Namely, coefficient manipulation part 328 first takes out, based on position data input from positioning part 324, DCT coefficients from the two DCT blocks (blocks 1 and 2; Fig. 9 (B), etc.) Of each pair (Fig. 10), writes them to blocks 1 and 2 columns of the embedding table (Fig. 15), and further writes embedding data input from scramble part 326 to the embedding data allocation column of the embedding table.

Fig. 16 is a diagram showing the process (S10) for coefficient manipulation part 328 shown in Fig. 4 to embed embedding data in a pair of DCT blocks.

Next, coefficient manipulation part 328 embeds in each of the pairs of DCT coefficients (DCT blocks) the embedding data's bit associated therewith in the embedding table (Fig. 15), and outputs the embedding data to encoding part 304 (Fig. 3) as DCT coefficient Y' of the luminance component that was embedded.

As shown in Fig. 16, coefficient manipulation part 328 initializes variable i that shows 6144 pairs in step 100 (S100) at 1.

In step 102 (S102), coefficient manipulation part 328 takes out the DCT coefficients (A_1 , A_2 , B_1 , B_2 , C_1 , C_2) of the i th pair to be manipulated from blocks 1 and 2 columns of the embedding table (Fig. 15) and the bit to the embedded likewise from the embedding data allocation column of the embedding table.

In step 104 (S104), coefficient manipulation part 328 determines whether or not the value of the embedding bit taken out in S102 process is 1, and proceeds to S106 process if it is 1, or proceeds to S110 process if it is 0.

In step 106 (S106), coefficient manipulation part 328 determines whether or not the subject DCT coefficients meet rule 1-1 indicated in Table 1, namely, whether or not the subject DCT coefficients represent 1, and proceeds to S114 process if they meet rule 1-1, or proceeds to S108 otherwise as illustrated in Fig. 12.

In step 108 (S108), coefficient manipulation part 328 manipulates so that the subject DCT coefficients meet rule 1-1.

Moreover, in S108 process, if the subject DCT coefficients exceed a normal range of values, coefficient manipulation part 328 performs an exceptional treatment according to the use of image alteration detection apparatus 1 (Fig. 1) such as not performing embedding process of bit (1) (manipulation of DCT coefficients) or terminating the process by displaying an error message.

In step 110 (S110), coefficient manipulation part 328 determines whether or not the subject DCT coefficients meet rule 1-2 indicated in Table 1, namely, whether or not the subject DCT coefficients represent 0, and proceeds to S114 process if they meet rule 1-2, or proceeds to S112 otherwise.

In step 112 (S112), coefficient manipulation part 328 manipulates so that the subject DCT coefficients meet rule 1-2.

Moreover, as a result of S112 process, if the subject DCT coefficients exceed a normal range of values, coefficient manipulation part 328 performs an exceptional treatment just as it did in S108 process.

In step 114 (S114), coefficient manipulation part 328 determines whether or not variable i is 6144, namely, whether or not the process of embedding the embedding data in all the pairs is complete, and terminates the process if it is complete, or returns to S102 process by increasing variable i by 1 otherwise.

Encoding part 304 (Fig. 3) performs a process reverse to those shown in Fig. 7 and Fig. 8, and encodes in Huffman code the DCT coefficients of chrominance components CR, Cb input from decoding part 300 and the DCT coefficient Y' of luminance component Y input from data embedding part 32 and in which embedding data is embedded so as to output them to image DB 24.

Fig. 17 is a diagram showing the structure of extraction part 40 illustrated in Fig. 2.

Fig. 18 is a diagram showing the structure of embedding data extraction part 42 illustrated in Fig. 13.

As shown in Fig. 17 and Fig. 18, extraction part 40 is comprised of decoding part 400, image dividing part 402, encoding part 404, image synthesis part 406, embedding data extraction part 42, alteration detection part 44 and clustering part 46, while embedding data extraction part 42 is comprised of random number generation part 420, positioning part 422, extraction order generation part 424, association part 426 and data extraction part 428.

If alteration is subsequently added by embedding part 30 to a part or all of JPEG data in which embedding data is embedded as mentioned above by referring to Fig. 9 to Fig 16, the relationship among the values of the DCT coefficients (A_1 , A_2 , B_1 , B_2 , C_1 , C_2 ; Fig. 10, etc.) Mutually corresponding and used to embed embedding data between the two DCT blocks (blocks 1 and 2; Fig. 9 (B), etc.) of each pair does not show the value of the bit embedded by the process illustrated in Fig. 11 (A), (B) to Fig. 14 according to rules 1-1 and 1-2 indicated in the above Table 1.

Extraction part 40 detects and indicates, by the above-mentioned components and exploiting such nature of JPEG data in which embedding data is embedded, whether or not alteration was added to the JPEG data generated by

embedding part 30, and if alteration was added, to which part of image data (Fig. 5) it was added.

5 Hereafter, processing of extraction part 40 is described in detail by further referring to Fig. 19 to Fig. 26.

As mentioned above, in embedding part 30 (Fig. 2 and 3), the positions of DCT coefficients used to embed embedding data in each pair can be acquired likewise by a random number generated from a key supplied from key information DB 22.

10 Accordingly, also in extraction part 40, it is possible to know, by using the same key as embedding part 30, which DCT coefficients are used to embed embedding data in DCT blocks (blocks 1 and 2; Fig. 10) of each pair.

Also, in embedding part 30, each bit of 96-bit embedding data is scrambled by a random number generated from a key supplied from key information DB 22 and associated with each pair.

20 Accordingly, also in extraction part 40, it is possible to know, by using the same key as embedding part 30, which bit of 96-bit embedding data is associated with which pair.

25 Thus, extraction part 40 knows which DCT coefficients are used to embed the bits in the two DCT blocks (blocks 1 and 2) of each pair by using the same key as embedding part 30, and further extracts the value (1,0) of the embedding data's bit embedded in each pair depending on

whether the relationship among the values of the mutually corresponding DCT coefficients used to embed the bits falls under rule 1-1 or 1-2 indicated in the above Table 1.

Next, by using the same key as embedding part 30, extraction part 40 detects, which bit of the embedding data is corresponding to the value of the embedding data's bit extracted from each pair.

Fig. 19 (A) is a drawing illustrating an image wherein JPEG data is which embedding data was embedded by embedding part 30 (Fig. 2, 3) is extended, and (B) is a drawing illustrating alteration added to the image shown in (A), and (C) is a drawing illustrating the image after alteration.

Here, if embedding part 30 adds alteration to the JPEG data acquired from the image data shown in Fig. 5 and Fig. 6 (A) to (C) so that the JPEG data generated by embedding the embedding data as shown in Fig. 9 to Fig. 16 is extended by someone, and the image illustrated in Fig. 19 (A) is acquired and alteration is added thereto as shown in a dotted line in Fig. 19 (B) and compressed and encoded again by the JPEG method to replace the original JPEG data, because the alteration was only added to a minor part of them, many of the 64 values extracted from the 64 pairs associated with the identical bit of the embedding data should show the values before the alteration and only minority of them should show the values changed by the alteration.

Extraction part 40 exploits such nature of an image when alteration was added to a part of it and associates the bit extracted from each pair with each bit of the embedding data so as to make decision by majority, and if value 1 (0) is extracted from majority of the 64 pairs corresponding to the kth bit of the embedding data and value 0 (1) is extracted from a minority of pairs, it estimates that embedding part 30 embedded value 1 (0) in these 64 pairs as the kth bit.

Namely, while extraction part 40 makes decision by majority as to the extracted value for each bit of the embedding data and estimates the value that embedding part 30 embedded in each pair, and as a result of decision by majority, it determines that alteration was added to the pairs from which minority values were extracted.

Fig. 20 is a drawing illustrating an image that shows a binary image indicating the part of alteration synthesized with the original image.

Furthermore, extraction part 40 synthesizes, for instance, a binary image showing a pair to which alteration was added (the mosaic part at the upper left of Fig. 20) as shown in Fig. 20 and the original image shown in Fig. 5 so as to indicate to which part alteration was added on display 100 (Fig. 1) and so on.

Fig. 21 is a drawing illustrating an image that shows the range in which alteration was added, synthesized with the original image by clustering process.

Or else, as shown in Fig. 21 for instance, extraction part 40 acquires by clustering process an image showing the range in which the mosaic part of a binary image shown in Fig. 20 exists (the rectangle at the upper left of Fig. 21), and synthesizes this image and the original image shown in Fig. 5 so as to indicate in what range alteration was added on display 100 and so on.

To perform such process, extraction part 40 first decodes in Huffman code the JPEG data supplied from image DB 22 and takes out 12288 DCT coefficients of luminance component Y (DCT block Y') out of the acquired three types of DCT coefficients (DCT blocks) and then renders neighboring DCTs into 6144 pairs as shown in Fig. 9 (B) and (C).

Extraction part 40 determines which of rules 1-1 or 1-2 the relationship among the DCT coefficients used to embed embedding data in the two DCT blocks (blocks 1 and 2; Fig. 10) contained in each of these pairs falls under, and extracts the value (1, 0) of the embedding data (second embedding data)'s bit embedded in each pair.

If corresponding DCT coefficients of the two DCT blocks (DCT blocks 1 and 2) are equal ($A_1=A_2$ for instance), the relationship falls under neither 1-1 nor 1-2, so extraction part 40 can immediately determine that alteration was added to this pair.

Fig. 22 is a diagram showing, in the case that no alteration/error was added to JPEG data generated by embedding part 30 (Fig. 2 and 3), the value of the bit

that extraction part 40 extracts from each pair contained in JPEG data with no alteration, etc. added.

If extraction part 40 arranges the value of embedding data's bit extracted from each pair (second image block) contained in JPEG data with neither alteration nor an error added after being generated by embedding part 30 according to which bit of the embedding data is associated with each pair as shown in Fig. 22, the values of all the bits extracted from the pairs corresponding to each embedding data match.

Fig. 23 is a diagram illustrating, in the case that alteration/error was added to JPEG data generated by embedding part 30 (Fig. 2 and 3), the values of the bits extracted by extraction part 40 from the pairs included in the JPEG data with alteration, etc. added.

Moreover, in Fig. 23, symbol A indicates that the relationship among the DCT coefficients of the pair observes rule 1-1 indicated in Table 1, symbol B indicates that the relationship among the DCT coefficients of the pair observes rule 1-2, and symbol C indicates that the relationship among the DCT coefficients of the pair observes neither rule 1-1 nor 1-2.

On the other hand, if extraction part 40 arranges the value of embedding data's bit extracted from each pair (second image block) contained in JPEG data with alteration, etc. added after being generated by embedding part 30 according to which bit of the embedding data is

associated with each pair as if Fig. 22, as shown in Fig. 23, the values of the bits extracted from the minority pairs with alteration added take different values from those extracted from other majority pairs with no alteration added as indicated as the values in thick frames in Fig. 23, and there arises a mismatch.

It is explained more concretely.

In the case illustrated in Fig. 23, the relationship among the DCT coefficients of the majority of 63 pairs 11, 99, ... corresponding to the bit 1 of the embedding data observes rule 1-1, and only one (minority) pair 399 observes rule 1-2.

Accordingly, the value of this bit 1 can be determined as 1 from the relationship among the DCT coefficients of the majority pairs.

Moreover, of the 64 pairs corresponding to the bit 2 of the embedding data, one pair 400 observes neither rule 1-1 nor 1-2 such as values among the three coefficients being partly equal, it can be immediately determined that alteration was added to this pair 400.

Of the remaining 63 pairs excluding pair 400, the relationship among the DCT coefficients of the majority of 62 pairs 5, 126, ... observe rule 1-2, and only one (minority) pair 315 observes rule 1-1.

Accordingly, the value of this bit 2 can be determined as 0 from the relationship among the DCT coefficients of the

majority pairs of the remaining 63 pairs excluding pair 400 that observes neither rule 1-1 nor 1-2.

5 Likewise, hereafter, extraction part 40 extracts the values of the bits embedded in the remaining $(64 - q)$ pairs excluding q pairs that observe neither rule 1-1 nor 1-2 and can immediately be determined as alteration added, and makes decision by majority as to these so as to estimate the value as that of the embedding data's bit
10 embedded by embedding part 30.

Fig. 24 is a diagram illustrating, when extraction part 40 (Fig. 17 and 18) detects the pairs with alteration, etc. added as shown in Fig. 23 from the JPEG data with alteration added as shown in Fig. 19, a binary image showing the positions of the pairs with alteration added in the image. Moreover, for explanation purposes, the example shown in Fig. 24 does not necessarily match the one shown in Fig. 19.

20 Thus, extraction part 40 generates, as shown in Fig. 24, a binary image that shows where in the screen a pair from which a different value from that estimated by decision by majority was extracted is located.

25 Moreover, a binary image generated by extraction part 40 is synthesized with the original image by referring to Fig. 20 as mentioned above to be displayed on display 100 (Fig. 1) and so on.

30 Fig. 25 (A) to (D) are diagrams illustrating, when extraction part 40 (Fig. 17 and 18) detects the pairs

with alteration, etc. added as shown in Fig. 23 from the
JPEG data with alteration added as shown in Fig. 19, a
clustering image illustrating in what range in the image
the pairs with alteration added exist. Moreover, for
5 explanation purposes, the examples shown in Fig. 25 (A)
to (D) do not necessarily match the ones shown in Fig.
20, etc.

Also, extraction part 40 detects, as illustrated in Fig.
10 25 (A) and (C) respectively, in what range in the screen
a pair from which a different value from that estimated
by decision by majority was extracted exists and
generates clustering images as illustrated in Fig. 25 (B)
and (D) respectively.

Moreover, a clustering image generated by extracting part
15 40 is synthesized with the original image by referring to
Fig. 21 as mentioned above to be displayed on display 100
(Fig. 1) and so on.

The components of extraction part 40 are explained by
20 referring to Fig. 17 and 18 again.

Decoding part 400 decodes in Huffman code the JPEG data
25 supplied from image DB 22 according to control of control
part 26 in response to operation, and outputs to encoding
part 404 chrominance components Cr, Cb and outputs to
image dividing part 402 luminance component Y', out of
the three types of image components resulting from the
30 decoding.

Image dividing part 402 divides by DCT coefficient (DCT block) luminance component Y' input from decoding part 400, and outputs the resulting DCT coefficients (DCT blocks) to embedding data extraction part 42.

5

Embedding data extraction part 42 associates each of two DCT blocks of luminance component Y' input from image dividing part 402 to generate pairs similar to the ones in embedding part 30 (Fig. 9 (B), (C) and Fig. 10, etc.), and extracts the values of embedding data's bits embedded in these pairs, and then outputs them to alteration detection part 44 as extracted data in the forms illustrated in Fig. 22 and 23.

15

Embedding data extraction part 42 also outputs to encoding part 404 luminance component Y' input from image dividing part 402 as it is as luminance component Y.

20

Association part 426 (Fig. 18) associates, out of 12288 DCT coefficients (DCT blocks) input from image dividing part 402, two neighboring DCT blocks (blocks 1, 2; Fig. 9 (B), etc.) and generates 6144 pairs of DCT coefficients (Fig. 9 (B) and (C)), and then outputs them to data extraction part 428.

25

Namely, association part 426 is corresponding to image dividing part 320 (Fig. 4) of embedding part 30 (Fig. 2 and 3) and generates pairs of DCT blocks just as image dividing part 320.

30

Random number generations part 420 generates a random number RN by the same method as in embedding part 30 by

using the same key as the one used by embedding part 30
to embed embedding data, supplied from key information DB
22 (Fig. 2), and outputs generated random number RN to
positioning part 422 and extraction order generation part
424.

Namely, random number generation part 420 generates the
same random number as that of random number generation
part 322 (Fig. 4) of embedding part 30 by the same method
and from the same key as the one used by random number
generation part 322 and corresponding thereto.

Positioning part 422 generates, from a random number RN
input from random number generation part 420, position
data showing which DCT coefficient of the two DCT blocks
(blocks 1 and 2) included in each pair is used to embed
embedding data in embedding part 30, and outputs it to
data extraction part 428.

Namely, positioning part 422 generates the same position
data as that of positioning part 324 of embedding part 30
from the random number that is the same as that used by
and corresponding to positioning part 324.

As mentioned above, as for 6144 pairs input in data
extraction part 428 from association part 426, each bit
of 96-bit embedding data is associated with each of the
96 pairs included in each set with 96 pairs as a set and
in different order for each set.

Extraction order generation part 424 generates, from a
random number RN input from random number generation part

420, order data indicating which pair is associated with which order bit of 96-bit embedding data and outputs it to data extraction part 428.

5 Data extraction part 428 determines, in the two DCT blocks (blocks 1 and 2) included in each pair input from association part 426, whether the relationship among the values of the mutually corresponding DCT coefficients (Fig. 10, etc.) indicated by position data input from
10 positioning part 422 falls under rule 1-1 or 1-2 indicated in the above Table 1 and extracts the value of the embedding data's bit embedded in each pair.

In addition, data extraction part 428 sorts the extracted
15 values of bits according to the order input from extraction order generation part 424 to generate extracted data in the forms illustrated in Fig. 22 and 23, and outputs it to extraction order generation part 424.

20 The bit extraction process of data extraction part 428 is further explained by referring to Fig. 26.

Fig. 26 is a flowchart showing processing of data
25 extraction part 428 shown in Fig. 18 to extract embedding data's bits embedded in each pair.

As shown in Fig. 26, in step 120 (S120), data extraction
30 part 428 initializes variable i that shows 6144 pairs by assigning 1 to it.

In step 122 (S122), data extraction part 428 takes out the
ith pair indicated by variable i as an extraction
subject.

5 In step 124 (124), data extraction part 428 determines,
in the two DCT blocks (blocks 1 and 2) included in an
extraction subject pair that was taken out, whether the
relationship among the DCT coefficients indicated by
position data input from positioning part 422 falls under
10 rule 1-1 or 1-2 indicated in the above Table 1, and
extracts the bit of value 1 from the ith pair if it falls
under rule 1-1, and extracts the bit of value 0 if it
falls under rule 1-2.

15 In addition, data extraction part 428 determines, based
on order data input from extraction order generation part
424, which bit of the embedding data the value of the
extracted bit is corresponding to, and writes the value
(1, 0) of the extracted bit to the position acquired as a
20 result of determination in the extracted data (Fig. 22
and 23).

In step 126 (S126), data extraction part 428 determines
whether or not variable i is 6144, namely whether or not
25 extraction of bits from all the pairs is complete, and
terminates the process if it is complete, or proceeds to
S122 process by increasing variable i by 1 otherwise.

If extraction of bits from all the pairs is complete,
30 data extraction part 428 makes decision by majority as to
64 pairs extracted corresponding to each bit of the 96-
bit embedding data, and estimates the embedding data

embedded in embedding part 30 (Fig. 2 and 3), and then outputs each pair as luminance component Y to encoding part 404.

5 Encoding part 404 (Fig. 17) encodes in Huffman code chrominance components Cr, Cb input from decoding part 400 and luminance component Y input from encoding part 404 to generate JPEG data, and outputs it to image synthesis part 406.

10 Alteration detection part 44 generates a binary image shown in Fig. 24 from extracted data (Fig. 22 and 23) input from data extraction part 428 and outputs it to image synthesis part 406.

15 Clustering part 46 generates a clustering image (Fig. 25) showing a range in which it is shown that alteration and so on were added in a binary image input from alteration detection part 44 and outputs it to image synthesis part 406.

20 Image synthesis part 406 extends JPEG data input from encoding part 404, generates images illustrated in Fig. 5 or Fig. 19 (C) and so on, and displays the generated images as it is on display 100 (Fig. 1) according to control of control part 26.

25 Or image synthesis part 406 synthesizes a binary image input from alteration detection part 44 or a clustering image input from clustering part 46 and an image resulting from extension, and generates the image illustrated in Fig. 20 or Fig. 21 and then displays the

part in the image to which alteration was added on display 100.

Or image synthesis part 406 displays a binary image input from alteration detection part 44 or a clustering image input from clustering part 46 as it is on display 100 to show in what range in the image alteration and so on were added.

Hereafter, the embedding process of embedding data of image alteration detection apparatus 1 is explained in its entirety by referring to Fig. 27.

Fig. 27 is a flowchart showing the embedding process (S20) of embedding data by image alteration detection apparatus 1 shown in Fig. 1.

In step 200 (S200), decoding part 300 (Fig. 3) decodes in Huffman code JPEG data supplied via camera IF 104 and so on and outputs 12288 DCT coefficients (DCT blocks) of luminance component Y to data embedding part 32.

Image dividing part 320 divides the input DCT coefficients (DCT blocks; Fig. 9 (A)) into 6144 pairs (Fig. 9 (B), (C)) and outputs them to coefficient manipulation part 328.

Random number generation part 322 generates a random number by using a key input from key information DB 22 (Fig. 2), and outputs then generated random number RN to positioning part 324 and scramble part 326.

Positioning part 324 generates position data showing the positions of DCT coefficients used to embed embedding data by using random number RN input from random number generation part 322, and outputs it to coefficient manipulation part 328.

Scramble part 326 scrambles 96-bit embedding data input from embedding data generation part 20 (Fig. 2) by using random number RN input from random number generation part 322, and outputs it to coefficient manipulation part 328.

In step 12 (S12), coefficient manipulation part 328 (Fig. 4) first selects in each pair the DCT coefficients (A_1 , A_2 , B_1 , B_2 , C_1 , C_2 ; Fig. 10, etc.) in which embedding data is to be embedded based on position data input from positioning part 324.

In addition, coefficient manipulation part 328 associates each pair with each bit of embedding data input from scramble part 326, and creates an embedding table shown in Fig. 15.

Furthermore, coefficient manipulation part 328 sequentially takes out the DCT coefficients to be manipulated and the bits to be embedded, and embeds each bit of the embedding data in each pair according to rule 1-1, 1-2 indicated in the above Table 1 as illustrated in Fig. 11 (A), (B) to Fig. 14.

If embedding of bits in all the pairs is complete, in step 202 (S202), encoding part 304 (Fig. 3) encodes in Huffman code the DCT coefficients (DCT blocks) of a

luminance component in which embedding data is embedded and the DCT coefficients of other components input from decoding part 300 to generate JPEG data, and outputs it to image DB 22 (Fig. 2).

5

Image DB 22 stores/manages JPEG data input from embedding part 30.

10 Hereafter, the extracting process of embedding data by image alteration detection apparatus 1 is explained in its entirety by referring to Fig. 28.

15 Fig. 28 is a flowchart showing the extracting process (S22) of embedding data by image alteration detection apparatus 1 shown in Fig. 1.

20 In step 220 (S220), decoding part 400 (Fig. 17) decodes in Huffman code JPEG data supplied from image DB 22 and outputs luminance component Y' to image dividing part 402.

25 Image dividing part 402 divides luminance component Y' into 12288 DCT coefficients (DCT blocks) and outputs them to embedding data extraction part 42.

30 In embedding data extraction part 42, association part 426 associates two each of neighboring DCT coefficients (DCT blocks; Fig. 9 (A)) to generate 6144 pairs (Fig. 9 (B) and (C)), and outputs them to data extraction part 428.

Random number generation part 420 (Fig. 18) generates a random number by using a key input from key information DB 22 (Fig. 2), and outputs the generated random number RN to positioning part 422 and extraction order generation part 424.

Positioning part 422 generates, by using random number RN input from random number generation part 420, position data showing the positions of DCT coefficients used to embed embedding data, and outputs it to data extraction part 428.

Extraction order generation part 424 generates, by using a random number RN input from random number generation part 322, order data indicating which embedding data's bit is associated and outputs it to data extraction part 428.

In step 12 (S12), as shown in Fig. 26, data extraction part 428 sequentially takes out the pairs as extraction subjects and extracts the value of the bit embedded in each pair depending on whether the relationship among the DCT coefficients of the two DCT blocks (blocks 1 and 2) shown by the position data input from positioning part 422 fails under rule 1-1 or 1-2 indicated in the above Table 1.

In addition, data extraction part 428 determines, based on order data input from extraction order generation part 424, which bit of the embedding data the value of the extracted bit is corresponding to, and writes the value (1, 0) of the extracted bit to the position acquired as a

result of determination in the extracted data (Fig. 22 and 23).

5 In extraction of bits from all the pairs is complete, in step 222 (S222), data extraction part 428 makes decision by majority, in the extracted data illustrated in Fig. 22 and 23, as to 64 pairs extracted corresponding to each bit of the 96-bit embedding data, and estimates the embedding data embedded in embedding part 30 (Fig. 2 and 10 3).

Furthermore, encoding part 404 (Fig. 17) encodes in Huffman code chrominance components Cr, Cb input from decoding part 400 and luminance component Y input from 15 encoding part 404 to generate JPEG data, and outputs it to image synthesis part 406.

20 In step 224 (S224), alteration detection part 44 generates a binary image shown in Fig. 24 from the extracted data (Fig. 22 and 23) input from data extraction part 428 and outputs it to image synthesis part 406.

25 Clustering part 46 generates a clustering image (Fig. 25) showing the range in which it is shown that alteration and so on were added in a binary image input from alteration detection part 44 and outputs it to image synthesis part 406.

30 Image synthesis part 406 synthesizes for instance, according to control of control part 26 in response to operational input, a binary image input from alteration

detection part 44 or a clustering image input from
clustering part 46 and an image resulting from extension,
and generates an image illustrated in Fig. 20 or 21, and
then displays a part in the image to which alteration and
so on were added on display 100.

Hereafter, examples of modification of the first
embodiment form of the present invention are explained.

In the first embodiment from explained so far, the
embodiments were the cases where the entire area of image
data is divided into pairs and alteration detection is
also performed to the entire area of image data, although
division and alteration detection of image data may be
performed to a partial area of image data and a divided
area does not have to match an alteration detection area.

Also, in the first embodiment form, the cases where DCT
process is performed for compressing and encoding image
data were explained, although the alteration detection
method involved in the present invention can also be
applied with almost no change to the cases other than DCT
process where space/frequency transformation is used for
compressing and encoding image data, wherein space area
data is transformed to frequency area data, such as
wavelet transformation, Fourier transform and FFT (fast
Fourier transform).

Also, in the first embodiment form, the cases where
embedding data is embedded in DCT coefficients of
luminance component Y, although the alteration detection
method involved in the present invention can also be

applied to the cases where embedding data is embedded in chrominance components Cr, Cb.

In addition, needless to say, the alteration detection method involved in the present invention can also be applied to image data of other forms including RGB image data, etc.

Also, in the first embodiment form, association of DCT blocks was performed by associating two neighboring DCT blocks, while it is also possible for instance, to randomly select two of 12288 DCT blocks by using a random number and associate them as a pair.

Moreover, as shown in a dotted line in Fig. 4, it is also possible to supply random number RN from random number generation part 322 to image dividing part 320 so that image dividing part 320 uses this random number RN and randomly selects two each of DCT coefficients (DCT blocks) to make a pair.

Also, as shown in a dotted line in Fig. 18, it is also possible to supply random number RN from random number generation part 420 to association part 426 so that association part 426 uses this random number RN and reproduces a pair associated by image dividing part 320.

Moreover, the method for scrambling embedding data is not limited to what was shown as the first embodiment form, and it can be any method by which each bit of 96-bit embedding data can be allocated to 6144 pairs 64 times each.

Also, appropriate transformation of embedding/detection
program 2 involved in the present invention can be
applied to a use for detecting which part of contents
data of image data and other types such as voice data
alteration was added to.

A case where the present invention is applied to voice
data is further explained as an example.

As for voice data, successive sample points can be
processed as one block. For instance, if every 1024
pieces of voice data of sampling frequency 44.1kHz are
one block, voice data of one second contains 44 voice
data blocks.

If these voice data blocks are transformed by FFT or the
like to data blocks of a frequency area, it is possible
to embed embedding data by a method similar to the first
embodiment form and to detect alteration by using the
embedded data.

Fig. 29 is a diagram showing configuration of alteration
detection system 4 connected with a plurality of image
alteration detection apparatuses (1-1 to 1-n) each
comprising image DB 24 (24-1 to 24-n).

Moreover, as shown in Fig. 29, in the case that a
plurality of image alteration detection apparatuses 1-1
to 1-n each comprising one each of image DB 24 (24-1 to
24-n) and embedding/extraction part 3 (3-1 to 3-n) are
connected via communication device 116 (Fig. 1; not
illustrated in Fig. 29) to detect alteration added to

image data by each image alteration detection apparatuses 1-1 to 1-n, the image data stored/managed in each image DB 24-1 to 24-n and its keys are centrally managed by key information DB 22-1 of image alteration detection apparatus 1-1 and the keys are delivered to each image alteration detection apparatuses 1-1 to 1-n, and thus high security can be ensured.

Hereafter, the second embodiment of the present invention is described by further referring to Fig. 30 to Fig. 39.

Fig. 30 is a diagram illustrating the structure of embedding/detection program 5 that image alteration detection apparatus 1 shown in Fig. 1 runs to implement the second alteration detection method involved in the present invention.

As shown in Fig. 30, embedding/detection program 5 has a structure wherein embedding part 30 of embedding/detection program 2 shown in Fig. 2 is replaced by embedding part 50, and extraction part 40 by extraction part 60, and performs a process similar to embedding/detection program 2 (Fig. 2) to non-compressed image data in an RGB bit map format.

Fig. 31 is a drawing illustrating non-compressed image data that is a subject of processing by embedding/detection program 5 shown in Fig. 30.

Fig. 32 is a diagram showing a pixel block comprised of 2 x 2 pixels that is a unit of processing by embedding/detection program 5 shown in Fig. 30.

Fig. 33 is a diagram showing non-compressed image data (Fig. 31) that is divided into pixel blocks comprised of 2 x 2 pixels (Fig. 32).

5 In embedding/detection program 5, embedding part 50 divides R component of non-compressed image data comprised of 192 x 256 pixels in an RGB bit map format illustrated in Fig. 31 into pixel blocks comprised of 2 x 2 (A, B, C and D) pixels shown in Fig. 32, and generates
10 12288 pixel blocks as shown in Fig. 33.

Fig. 34 is a diagram showing association of embedding data's bits with each of the pixel blocks shown in Fig. 33.

15 Fig. 35 (A), (B) and Fig. 36 are diagrams showing a process of embedding part 50 shown in Fig. 30 to embed the bit of value 1 in the pixel block shown in Fig. 32, and Fig. 35 (A) and (B) show a case where a pixel value is manipulated to embed the bit of value 1, and Fig. 36
20 is a case where it is not manipulated to embed the bit of value 1.

As shown in Fig. 34, embedding part 50 (Fig. 30)
25 associates each bit of scrambled 96-bit embedding data with each of the pixel blocks shown in Fig. 33, just like embedding/detection program 2 (Fig. 2).

As illustrated in Fig. 35 (A), (B) and Fig. 36, if the
30 bit value of the embedding data associated with the pixel block is 1, embedding part 50 manipulates the values of pixels A to D so that all the values of the four pixels

(A to D) of the pixel block comprised of 2 x 2 pixels will become even numbers and besides, the difference of pixel values between before and after the change will be minimum.

5

Fig. 37 (A), (B) and Fig. 38 are diagrams showing a process of embedding part 50 shown in Fig. 30 to embed the bit of value 0 in the pixel block shown in Fig. 32, and Fig. 37 (A) and (B) show a case where a pixel value is manipulated to embed the bit of value 1, and Fig. 38 is a case where it is not manipulated to embed the bit of value 1.

10

Or, as illustrated in Fig. 37 (A), (B) and Fig. 38, if the bit value of the embedding data associated with the pixel block is 0, embedding part 50 manipulates the values of pixels A to D so that all the values of the four pixels (A to D) of the pixel block comprised of 2 x 2 pixels will become odd numbers and besides, the difference of pixel values between before and after the change will be minimum.

15

20

As explained above, non-compressed image data in which embedding data is embedded is stored/managed in image DB 24.

25

Hereafter, a process is explained by referring to Fig. 39, wherein extraction part 60 shown in Fig. 30 detects whether or not alteration was added to non-compressed image data in which embedding data was embedded by embedding part 50.

30

Fig. 39 is a diagram illustrating the process of extraction part 60 shown in Fig. 30.

Moreover, in Fig. 39, just as in Fig. 23, symbol A indicates that all the four pixel values of the pixel block are even numbers and the bit of value 1 is embedded, symbol B indicates that all the four pixel values of the pixel block are odd numbers and the bit of value 0 is embedded, and symbol C indicates that the four pixel values of the pixel block include even and odd numbers, and the thick frame indicates a pixel block where a mismatch has arisen.

Just as embedding part 50, extraction part 60 divides R component of non-compressed image data in which embedding data is embedded into pixel blocks comprised of 2 x 2 pixels (Fig. 32) as shown in Fig. 33.

Next, extraction part 60 determines whether the four pixel values of each pixel block represent bit value 1 or bit value 0, and as shown in Fig. 39, performs a process of making decision by majority (Fig. 23) just as extraction part 40 (Fig. 2) to extract embedding data so as to detect which pixel block alteration was added to.

In addition, just as extraction part 40 (Fig. 2), extraction part 60 adds a binary image (Fig. 20) or a clustering image (Fig. 21) to the part to which alteration was added, and shows it to a user.

As explained so far, the alteration detection method involved in the present invention can be applied, other

than the application to compressed image data shown as
the first embodiment form, to non-compressed image data
and also image data other than that converted from a
space area into a frequency area by DCT process and so
on.

Also, as shown as the second embodiment form, the
alteration detection method involved in the present
invention can detect whether or not alteration was added
by using an image block of different composition such as
2 x 2 pixel block composition, apart from 8 x 8 pixel
block.

As explained so far, the alteration detection apparatus
involved in the present invention and method thereof are
not only capable of detecting whether or not alteration
was added to contents data but also capable of further
detecting which part of the contents data the alteration
is added to.

While the invention has been particularly shown and
described with respect to preferred embodiments thereof,
it will be understood by those skilled in the art that
the foregoing and other changes in form and details may
be made therein without departing from the spirit and
scope of the invention.

Claims

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1 1. A contents alteration detection apparatus having a
2 data filling apparatus and a detection apparatus, said
3 data filling apparatus filling certain embedding data to
4 contents data being objective to embed said embedding
5 data, said detection apparatus detecting whether
6 alteration was added to said contents data or not, said
7 data filling apparatus, comprising:
8 a contents data dividing means for dividing at least a
9 part of said contents data into a plurality of first data
10 blocks; and a data filling means for filling each of
11 certain first embedding data to each of said divided
12 first data blocks to generate a plurality of second data
13 blocks, said detection apparatus, comprising:
14 a data extracting means for extracting said embedding
15 data filled in each of at least a part of said second
16 data blocks (second embedding data); and an alteration
17 detecting means for detecting whether or not alteration
18 was added to each of at least a part of said second data
19 blocks based on said extracted second embedding data.

1 2. A contents alteration detection apparatus having a
2 data filling apparatus and a detection apparatus, said
3 data filling apparatus filling certain embedding data to
4 image data, said detection apparatus detecting whether
5 alteration was added to said image data or not, said data
6 filling apparatus, comprising: an image dividing means
7 for dividing said image data into a plurality of first

8 image blocks; and a data filling means for filling each
9 of certain first embedding data to each of said divided
10 first image blocks to generate a plurality of second
11 image blocks, said detection apparatus, comprising: a
12 data extracting means for extracting embedding data
13 filled in each of said second image blocks (second
14 embedding data); and an alteration detecting means for
15 detecting whether or not alteration was added to each of
16 said second image blocks based on said extracted second
17 embedding data.

1 3. The contents alteration detection apparatus according
2 to claim 2 wherein: said image dividing means divides
3 said image data into said plurality of first image blocks
4 containing a plurality of unit data respectively; and
5 said data filling means adjusts a relationship between or
6 among a mutually corresponding plurality of said unit
7 data values contained in each of mutually corresponding
8 two or more of said first image blocks so that it
9 represents said first embedding data according to a
10 certain rule, filling said first embedding data to each
11 of said plurality of first image blocks to generate said
12 second image blocks.

1 4. The contents alteration detection apparatus according
2 to claim 3 wherein said data filling means, in the case
3 that alteration was added to any of said second image
4 blocks, adjusts said mutually corresponding plurality of
5 unit data values contained in said second image blocks to
6 which alteration was added so that said values do not
7 comply with said certain rule.

1 5. The contents alteration detection apparatus according
2 to claim 4 wherein said data extracting means extracts as
3 said second embedding data, from each of said plurality
4 of second image blocks, the data represented by the
5 relationship between or among said plurality of unit data
6 values contained in each of said second image blocks
7 according to a certain rule.

1 6. The contents alteration detection apparatus according
2 to claim 5 wherein said alteration detecting means
3 detects whether alteration was added to each of said
4 second image blocks or not based on results of comparison
5 between said embedded first embedding data and said
6 extracted second embedding data.

1 7. The contents alteration detection apparatus according
2 to claim 3 wherein said first image blocks and said
3 second image blocks are conversion blocks that contain
4 said unit data, and also contain one or more sets of
5 conversion coefficients acquired by dividing image data
6 into certain processing blocks and converting it from a
7 space area into a frequency area, respectively.

1 8. The contents alteration detection apparatus according
2 to claim 3 wherein said first image blocks and said
3 second image blocks are DCT blocks that contain said unit
4 data, and also contain plural sets of DCT coefficients
5 acquired by dividing image data into certain DCT blocks
6 and performing discrete cosine transformation (DCT)
7 process on it.

1 9. A data filling apparatus filling certain embedding
2 data to image data so as to detect whether alteration was
3 added to image data, said detection being performed,
4 based on second embedding data filled to each of a
5 plurality of second image blocks contained in said image
6 data, by detecting whether or not alteration was added to
7 each of said image blocks, said data filling apparatus
8 comprising: an image dividing means for dividing image
9 data into a plurality of first image blocks; and a data
10 filling means for filling each of certain first embedding
11 data to each of said divided first image blocks to
12 generate a plurality of second image blocks.

1 10. The data filling apparatus according to claim 9
2 wherein: said image dividing means divides said image
3 data into said plurality of first image blocks containing
4 a plurality of unit data respectively; and said data
5 filling means adjusts a relationship between or among a
6 mutually corresponding plurality of said unit data values
7 contained in each of mutually corresponding two or more
8 of said first image blocks so that it represents said
9 first embedding data according to a certain rule, filling
10 said first embedding data to each of said plurality of
11 first image blocks to generate.

1 11. The data filling apparatus according to claim 10
2 wherein said data filling means, in the case that
3 alteration was added to any said second image blocks,
4 adjusts said mutually corresponding plurality of unit
5 data values contained in each of said second image blocks
6 to which alteration was added so that said values do not
7 comply with said certain rule.

1 12. A detection apparatus for detecting whether or not
2 alteration was added to each of a plurality of second
3 image blocks generated by dividing image data into a
4 plurality of first image blocks and filling each of
5 certain first embedding data to each of said divided
6 first image blocks, said detection apparatus comprising:
7 a data extracting means for extracting embedding data
8 filled in each of said second image blocks (second
9 embedding data); and an alteration detecting means for
10 detecting whether or not alteration was added to each of
11 said second image blocks based on said extracted second
12 embedding data.

1 13. The detection apparatus according to claim 12
2 wherein: said image data is divided into said plurality
3 of first image blocks containing a plurality of unit data
4 respectively; said second image blocks are adjusted so
5 that the relationship between or among a mutually
6 corresponding plurality of said unit data values
7 contained in each of mutually corresponding two or more
8 of said first image blocks represents said first
9 embedding data according to a certain rule; and said data
10 extracting means extracts as said second embedding data,
11 from said plurality of second image blocks, the data
12 represented according to a certain rule by the
13 relationship between or among mutually corresponding
14 plurality of said unit data values contained in each of
15 corresponding two or more of said second image blocks.

1 14. The detection apparatus according to claim 13
2 wherein: in the case that alteration was added to any of
3 said second image blocks, said mutually corresponding
4 plurality of unit data values contained in each of said

second image blocks to which alteration was added are adjusted so that said values do not comply with said certain rule; and said contents alteration detecting means detects whether or not alteration was added to each of said second image blocks based on results of comparison between said embedded first embedding data and said extracted second embedding data.

15. The detection apparatus according to claim 12 further comprising an altered position indication means for indicating the positions occupied by said second image blocks of which added alteration was detected.

16. A contents alteration detection method for filling certain embedding data to contents data being objective to embed said embedding data, said detection method detecting whether alteration was added to said contents data or not while: dividing said contents data into a plurality of first data blocks; filling each of certain first embedding data to each of said divided first data blocks to generate a plurality of second data blocks, extracting said embedding data filled in each of said second blocks (second embedding data); and detecting whether or not alteration was added to each of said second data blocks based on said extracted second embedding data.

17. A medium in an alteration detection apparatus having a data filling apparatus and a detection apparatus, said data filling apparatus filling certain embedding data to image data, said detection apparatus detecting whether alteration was added to said image data or not, said medium carrying a program for having a computer execute

7 the steps of: dividing image data into a plurality of
8 first image blocks; filling each of certain first image
9 blocks to generate a plurality of second image blocks;
10 extracting embedding data filled in each of said second
11 image blocks (second embedding data); and detecting
12 whether or not alteration was added to each of said
13 second image blocks based on said extracted second
14 embedding data.

1 18. A medium in a data filling apparatus filling certain
2 embedding data to image data so as to detect whether or
3 not alteration was added to image data, said detection
4 being performed, based on second embedding data filled to
5 each of a plurality of second image blocks contained in
6 said image data, by detecting whether or not alteration
7 was added to each of said image blocks, said medium
8 carrying a program for having a computer execute the
9 steps of: dividing image data into a plurality of first
10 image blocks; and filling each of certain first embedding
11 data to each of said divided first image blocks to
12 generate a plurality of second image blocks.

1 19. A medium in a detection apparatus for detecting
2 whether or not alteration was added to each of a
3 plurality of second image blocks generated by dividing
4 image data into a plurality of first image blocks and
5 filling each of certain first embedding data to each of
6 said divided first image blocks, said medium carrying a
7 program for having a computer execute the steps of:
8 extracting embedding data filled in each of said second
9 image blocks (second embedding data); and detecting
10 whether or not alteration was added to each of said

11 second image blocks based on said extracted second
12 embedding data.

ALTERATION DETECTION APPARATUS AND METHOD THEREOF
ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 The present invention is directed to the detection of
what part of an image alteration was added to by
embedding an electronic watermark in the image. More
particularly, embedding part 30 renders as pairs two each
of DCT blocks of luminance component Y of an image,
randomly selects, by using a random number, mutually
10 corresponding DCT coefficients from each DCT block
contained in the pairs, and manipulates so that the
relationship among these DCT coefficients represent data
according to a certain rule, and then embeds the data.
If alteration is added to this image, the DCT
15 coefficients contained in the pairs in the altered part
do not observe the above rule and represent different
values from the original data. Extraction part 40
extracts data from the image, and makes decision by
majority to estimate the initially embedded data to
20 detect and display the pairs from which different data
form the estimated data was extracted as those to which
alteration was added.

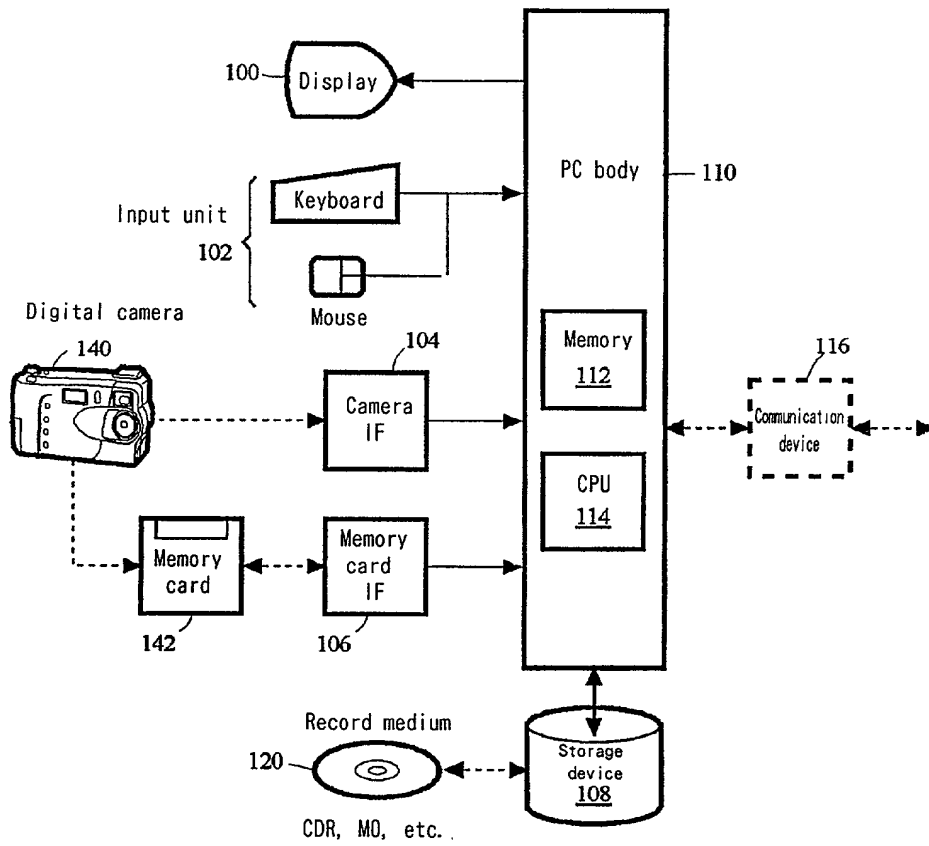


Fig. 1

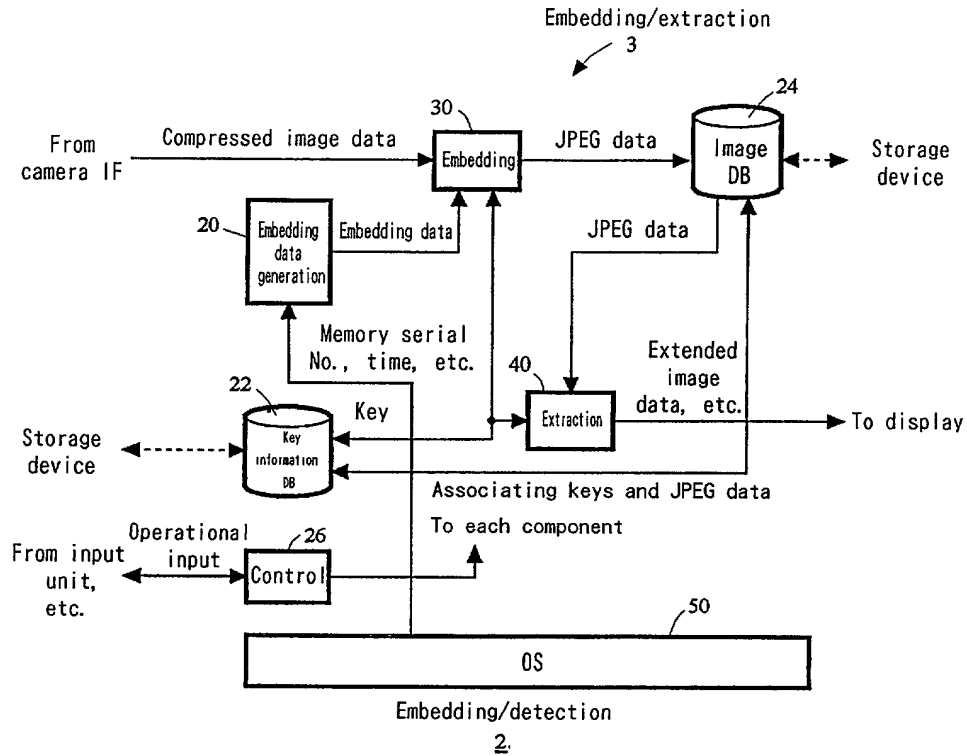


Fig. 2

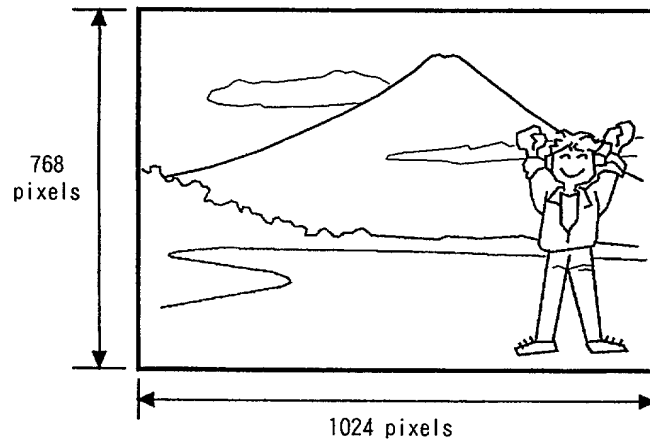


Fig. 5

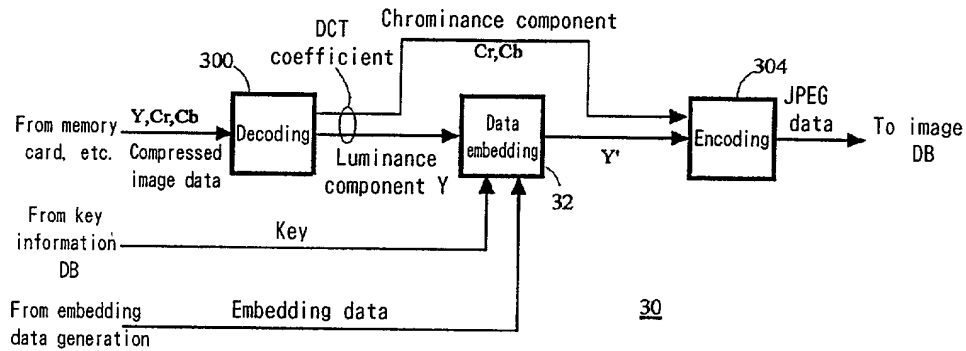


Fig. 3

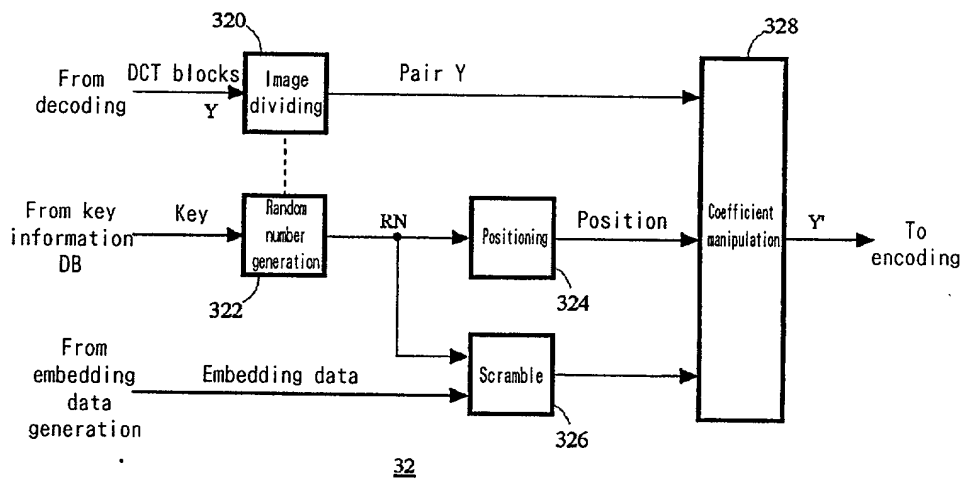
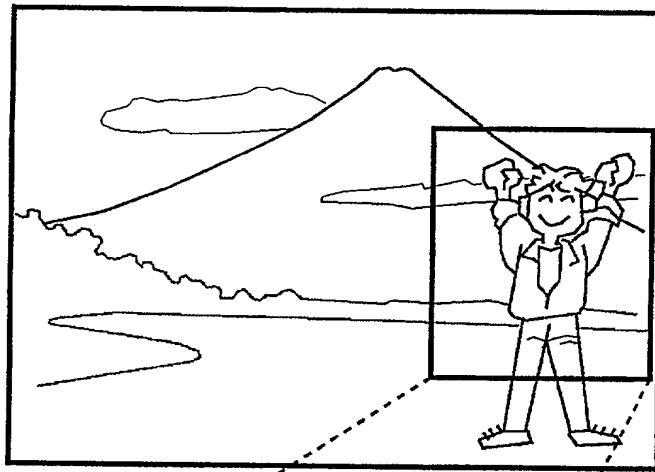
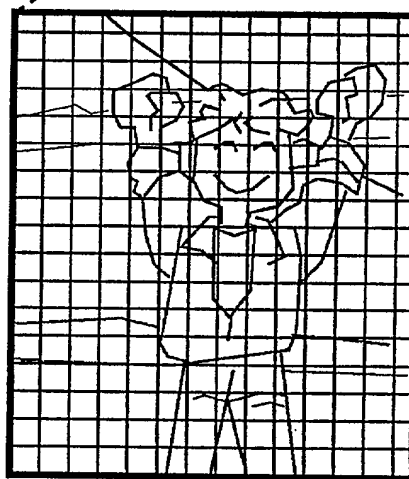


Fig. 4

(A)



(B)



(C)

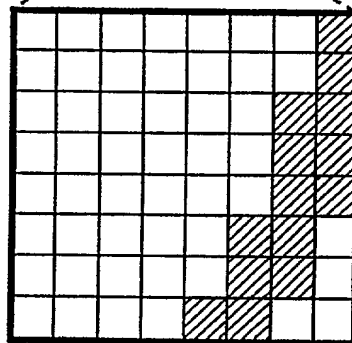


Fig. 6

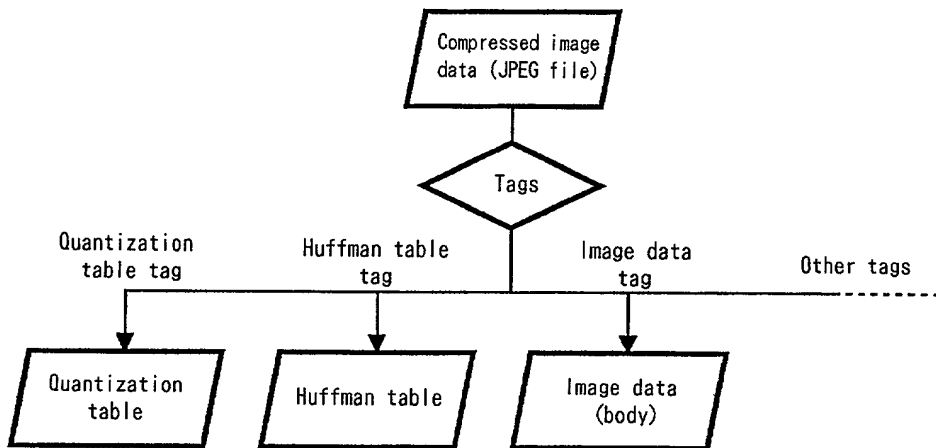


Fig. 7

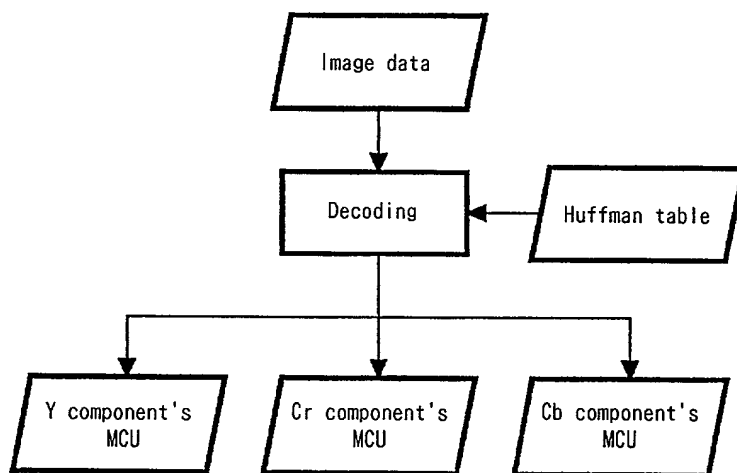


Fig. 8

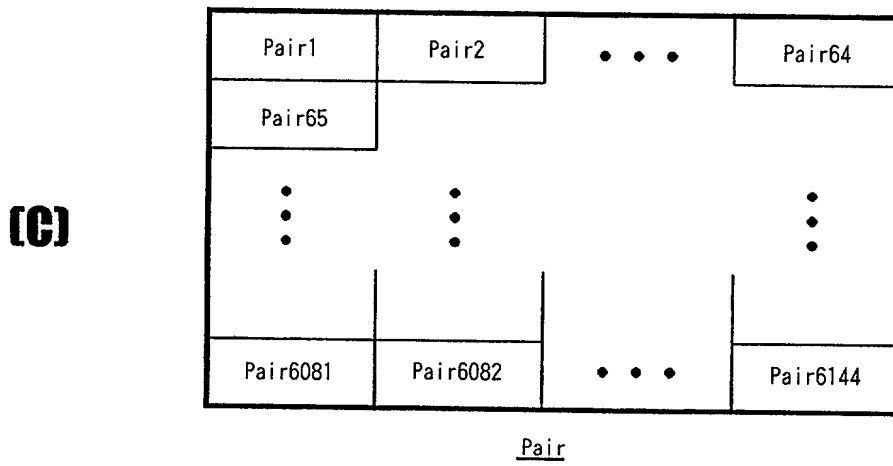
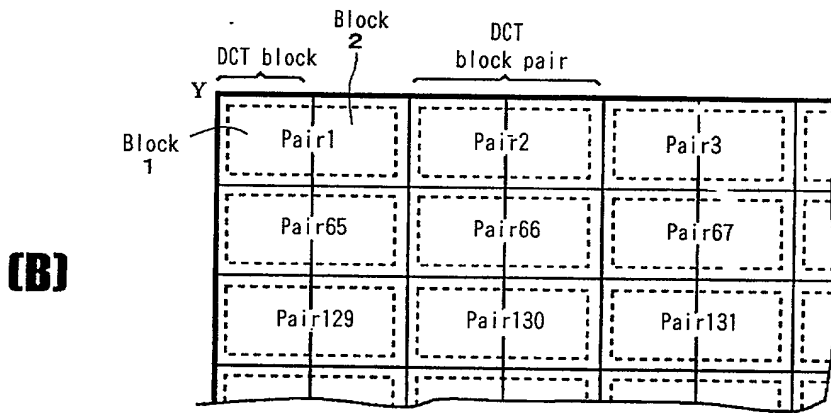
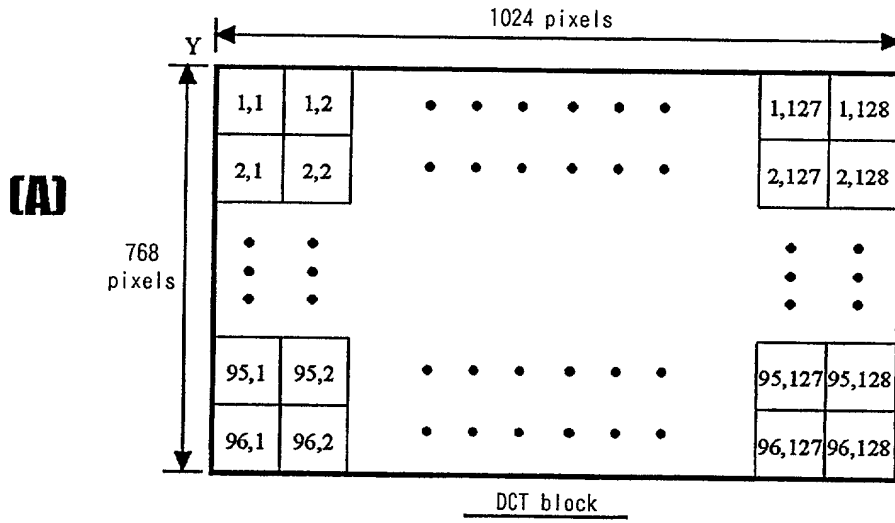


Fig. 9

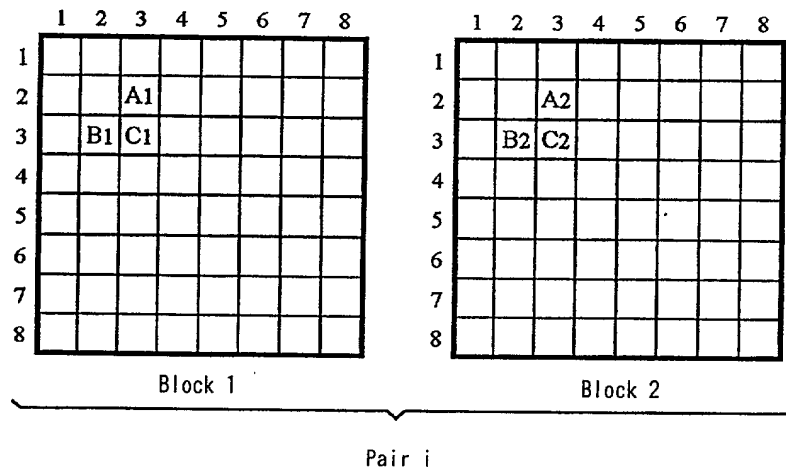


Fig. 10

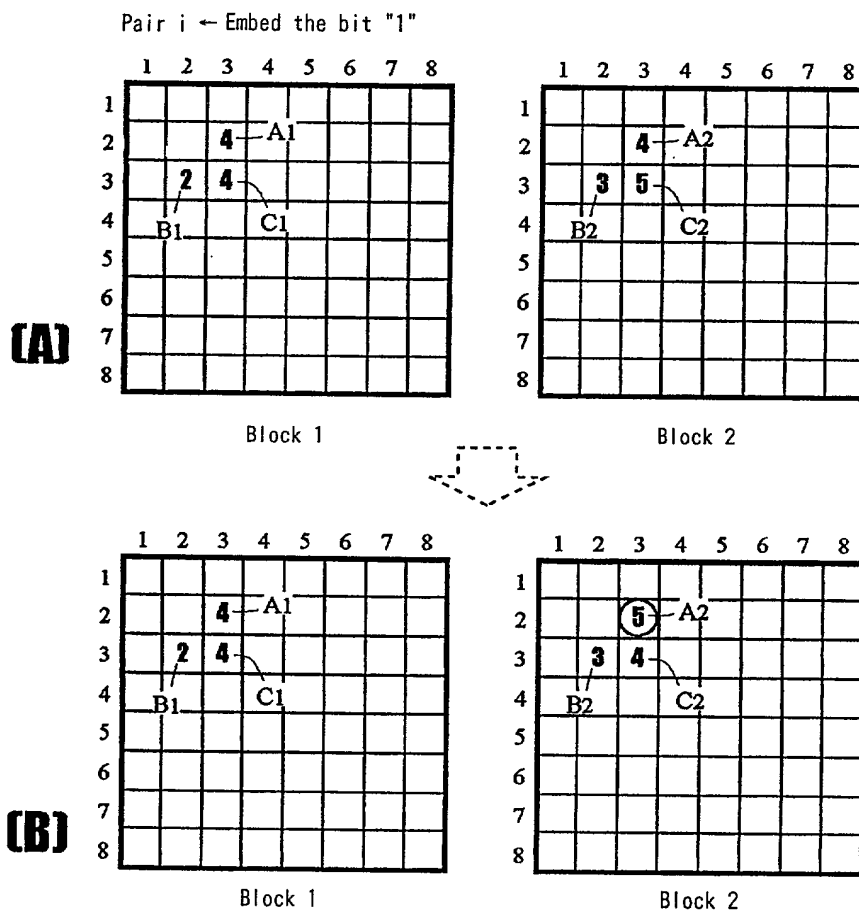


Fig. 11

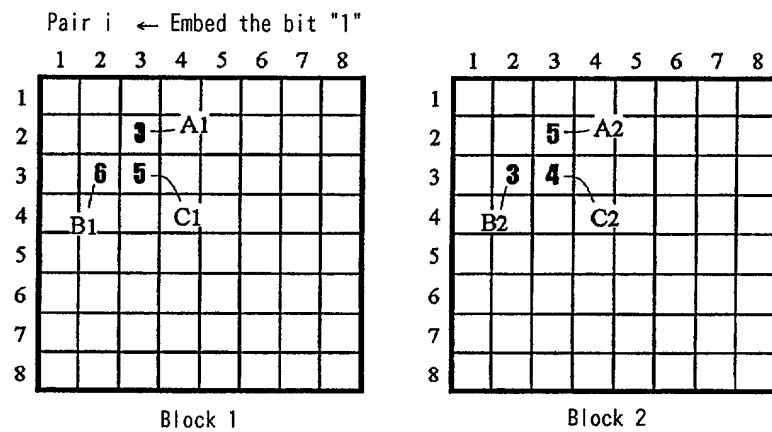


Fig. 12

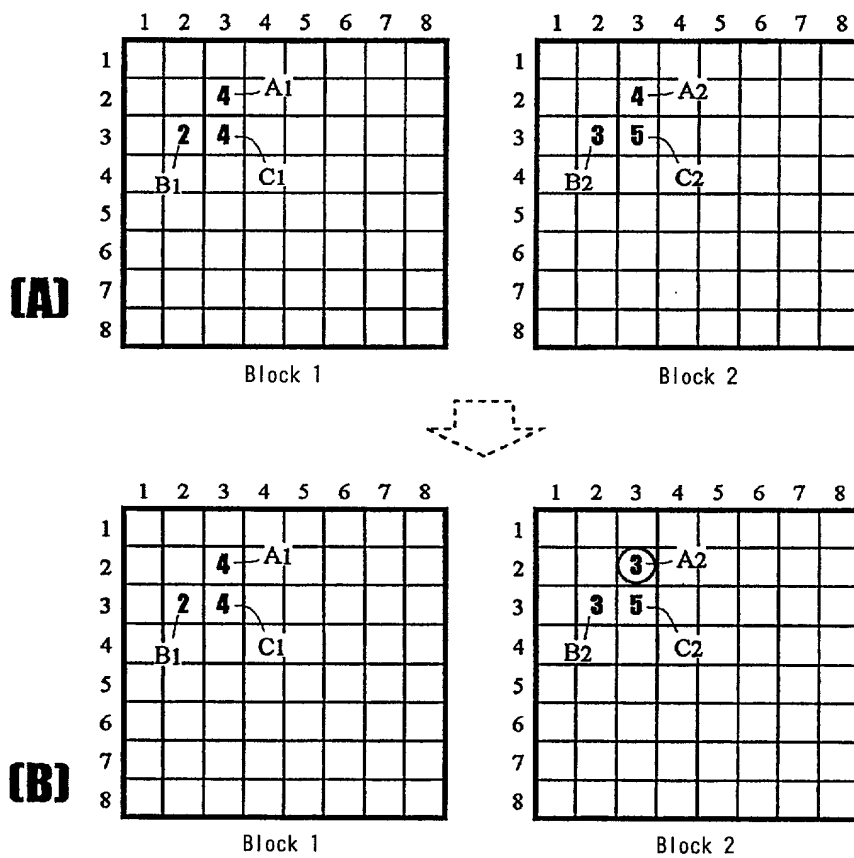


Fig. 13

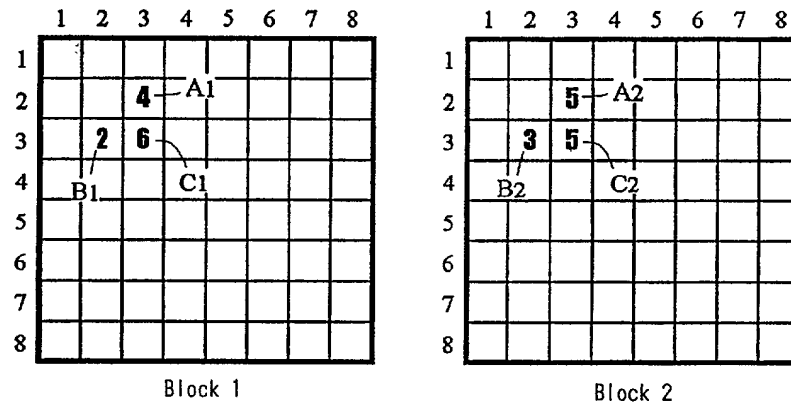


Fig. 14

DCT block pair No.	Block 1 coefficient			Block 2 coefficient			Embedding data's bit No. (1~96)	Embedding data allocation
	A1	B1	C1	A2	B2	C2		
1	1	5	2	5	6	3	31	1
2	5	8	9	2	5	5	21	0
3	2	10	9	5	1	2	18	1
4	1	11	5	5	3	20	65	0
5	10	2	25	1	3	24	7	1
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮
160	5	30	11	6	9	10	7	1
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮
6144	51	20	11	3	19	15	34	1

Fig. 15

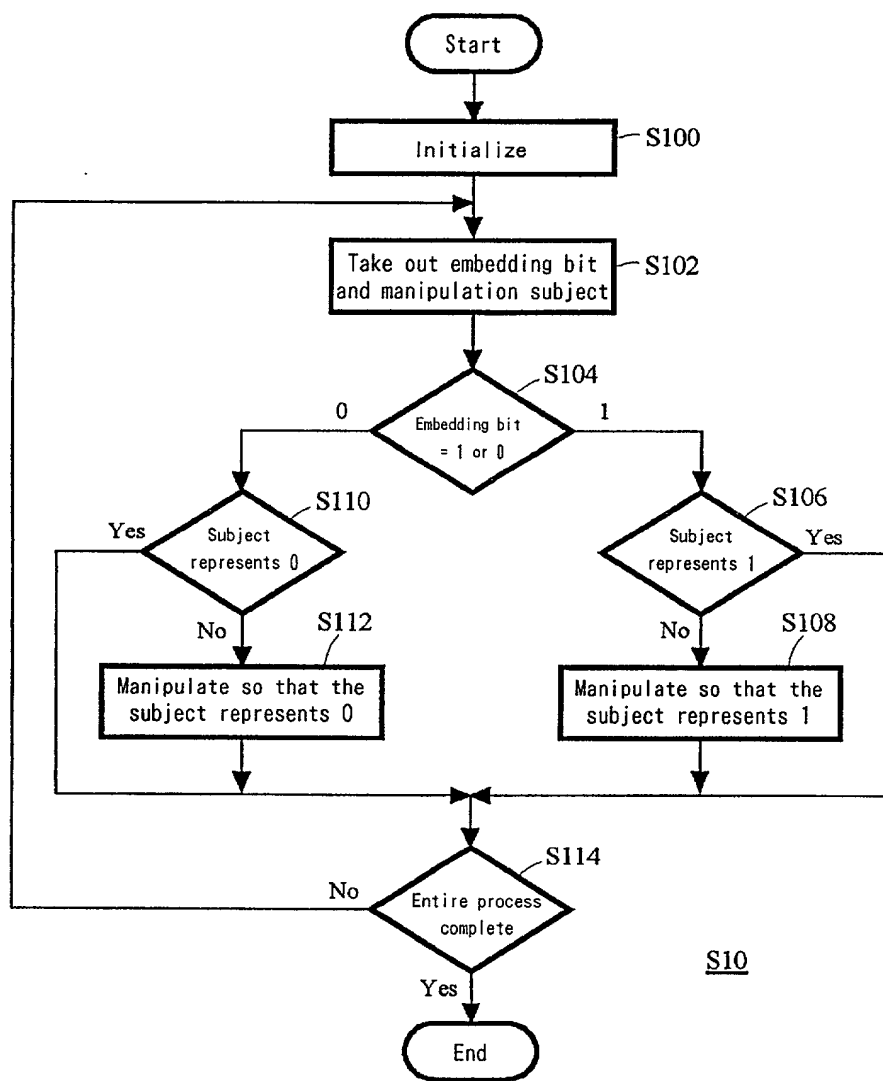


Fig. 16

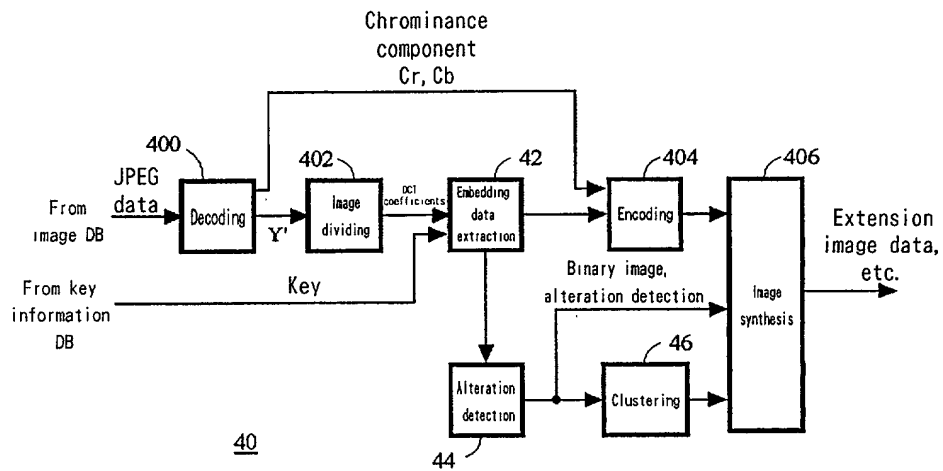


Fig. 17

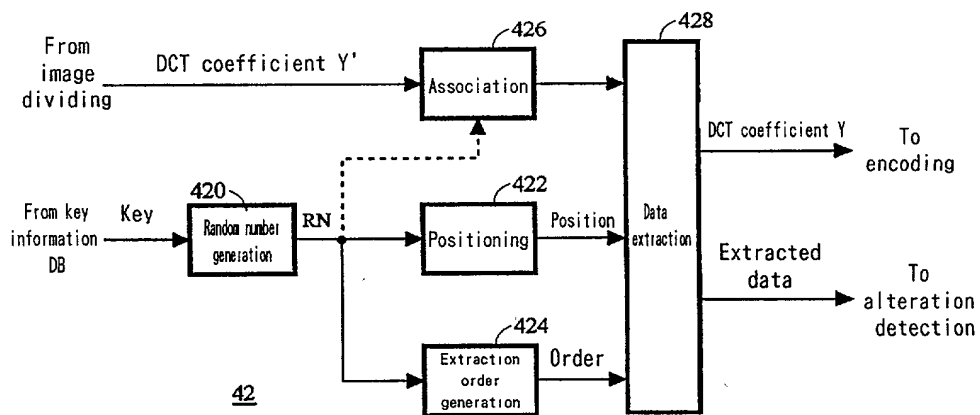
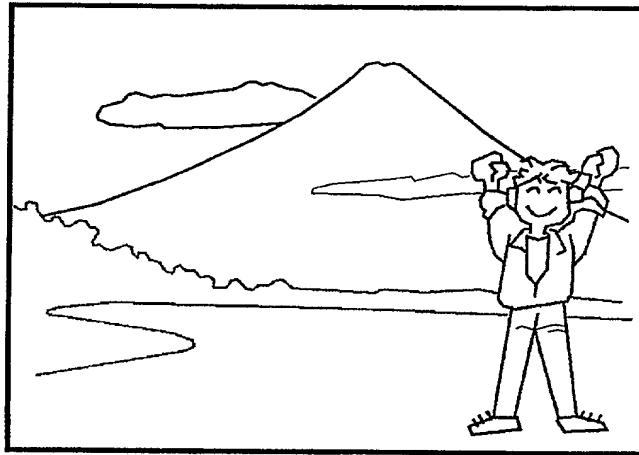
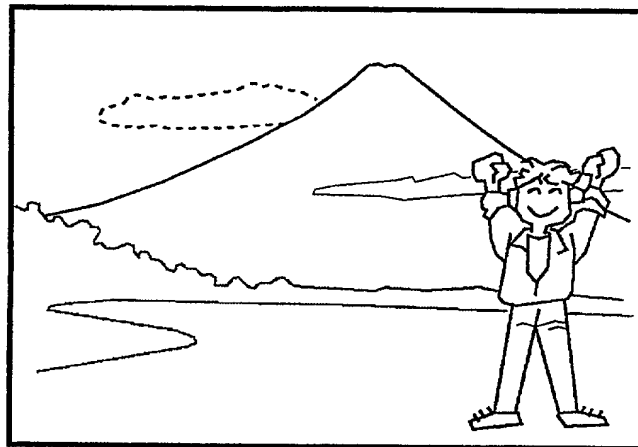


Fig. 18

(A)



(B)



(C)

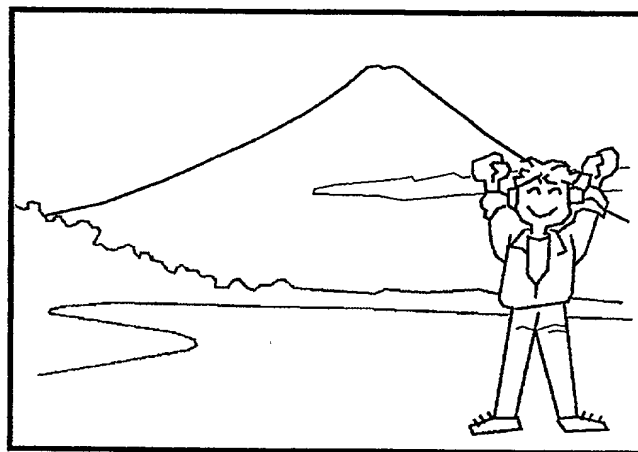


Fig. 19

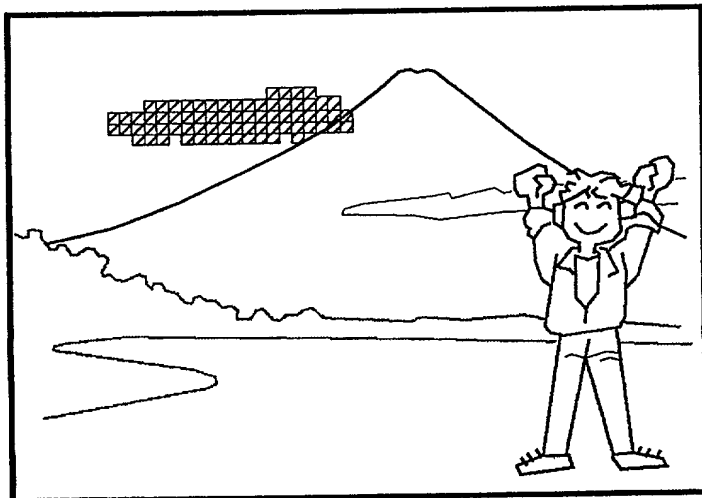


Fig. 20

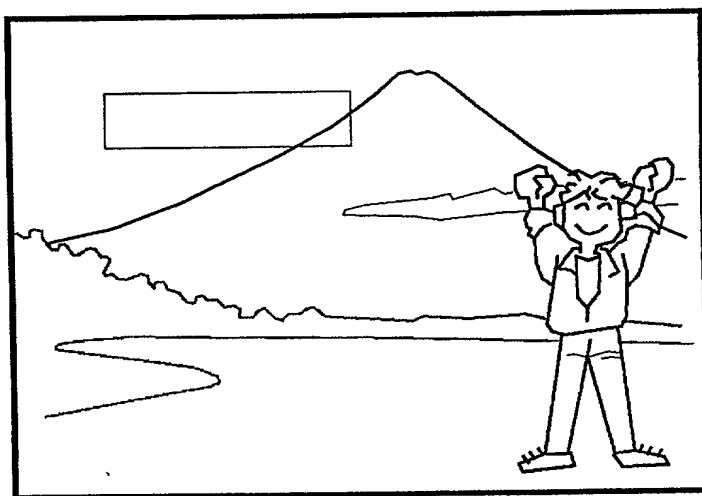


Fig. 21

	1	2	3	4	5		96
Pairs 1-96	Pair11 1	Pair5 0	Pair31 1	Pair9 1	0	-----	1
Pairs 97-192	Pair99 1	Pair126 0	Pair150 1	Pair153 1	0	-----	1
Pairs 193-288	1	0	1	1	0	-----	1
Pairs 289-384	1	0	1	1	0	-----	1
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮		⋮
Pairs 6049-6144	1	0	1	0	0	-----	1
Extraction result	1	0	1	1	0	-----	1

Repeat 64 times

Fig. 22

Detected embedding data's bit number

	1	2	3	4	5		96
Pairs 1-96	Block 11 1 _A	Block 5 0 _B	Block 31 1 _A	Block 9 1 _A	0 _B	-----	1 _A
Pairs 97-192	Block 99 1 _A	Block 126 0 _B	Block 150 1 _A	Block 153 1 _A	0 _B	-----	Block 185 0 _B
Pairs 193-288	1 _A	0 _B	1 _A	Block 255 0 _B	0 _B	-----	Block 254 0 _B
Pairs 289-384	1 _A	Block 315 1 _A	1 _A	0 _B	Block 316 1 _A	-----	1 _A
Pairs 385-480	Block 399 0 _B	Block 400 0 _B	1 _A	1 _A	0 _B	-----	1 _A
Pairs 481-576	1 _A	0 _B	1 _A	1 _A	Block 520 1 _A	-----	1 _A
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮		⋮
Extraction result	1	0	1	1	0	-----	1

☐ Mismatch

Fig. 23

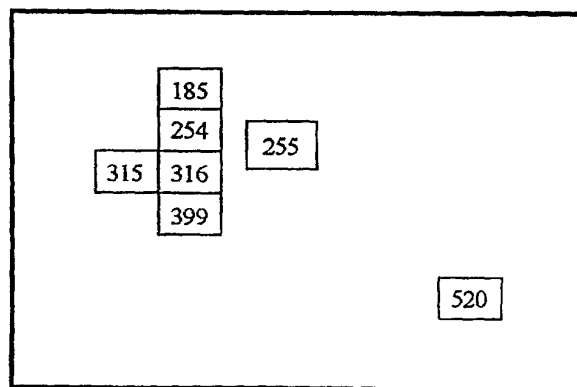


Fig. 24

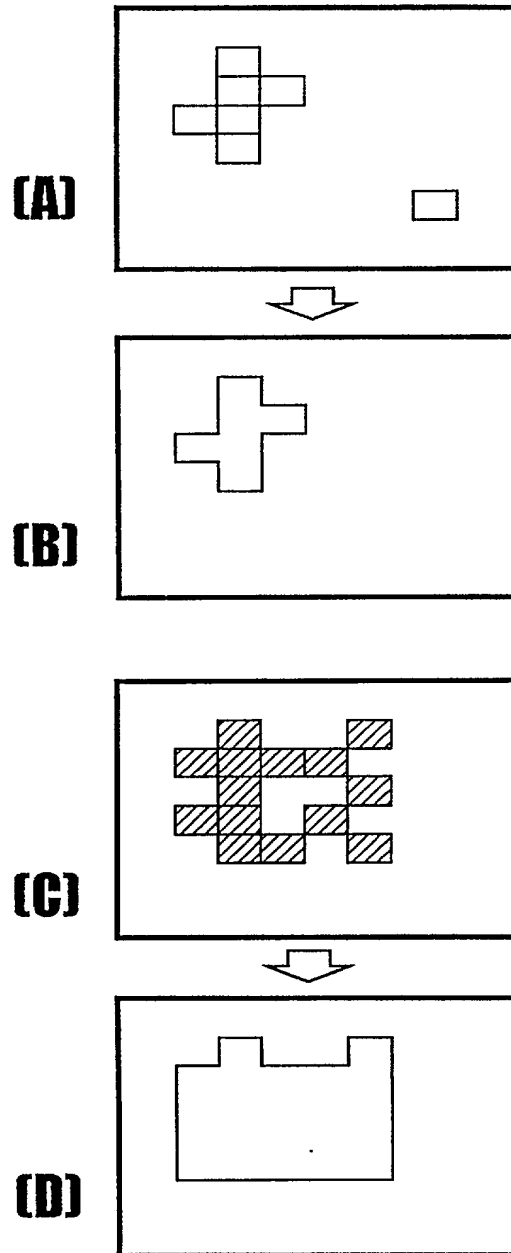


Fig. 25

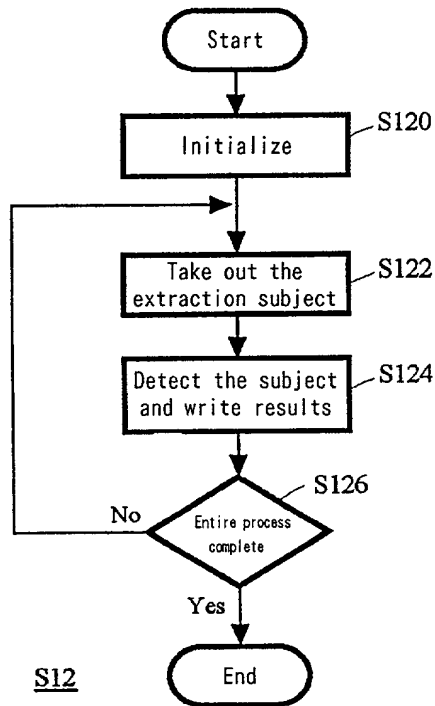


Fig. 26

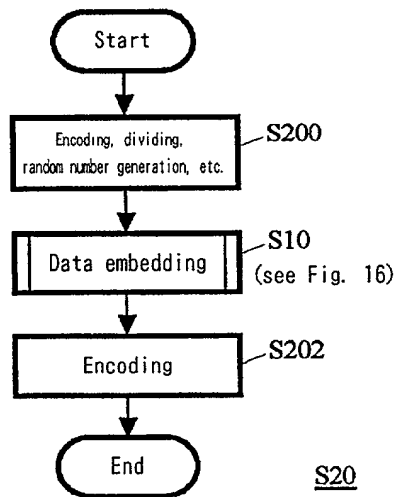


Fig. 27

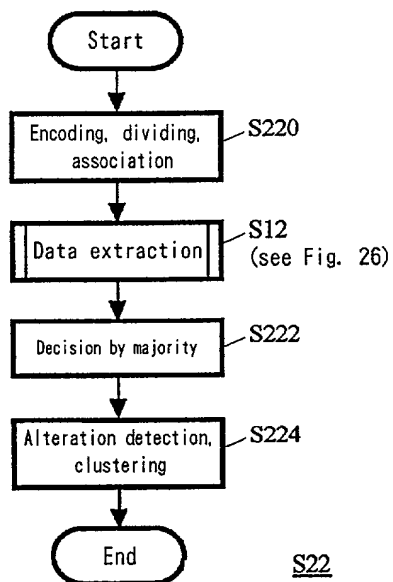


Fig. 28

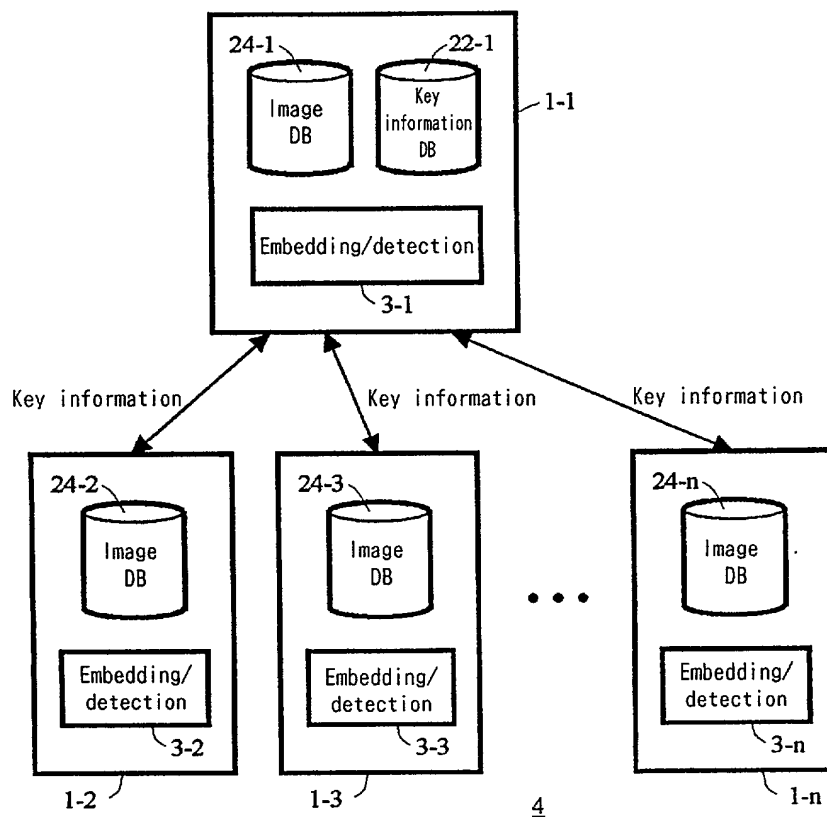
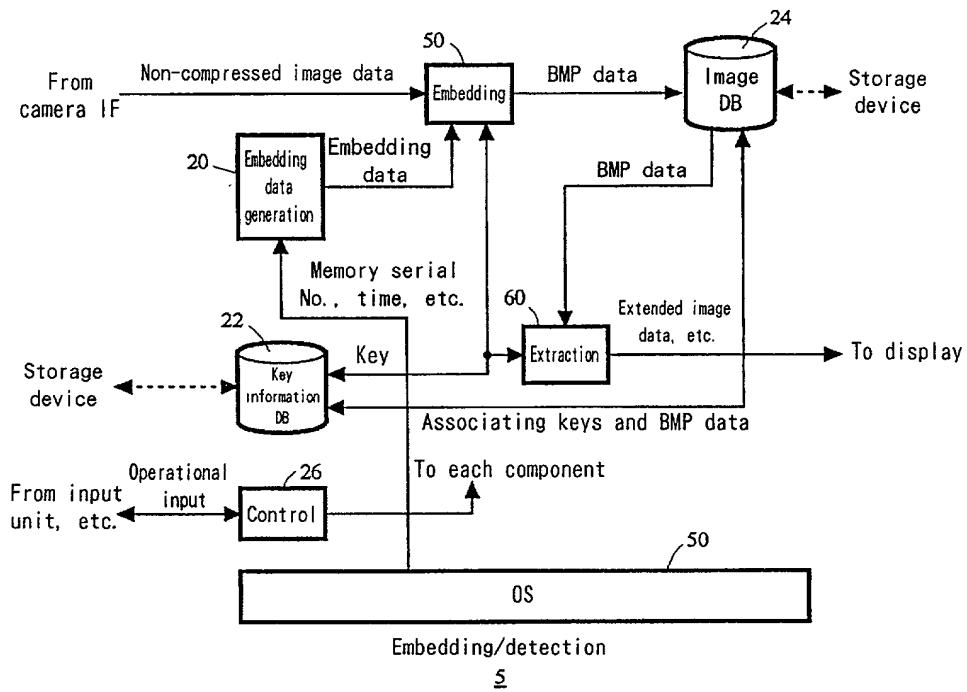


Fig. 29



Key

Fig. 30

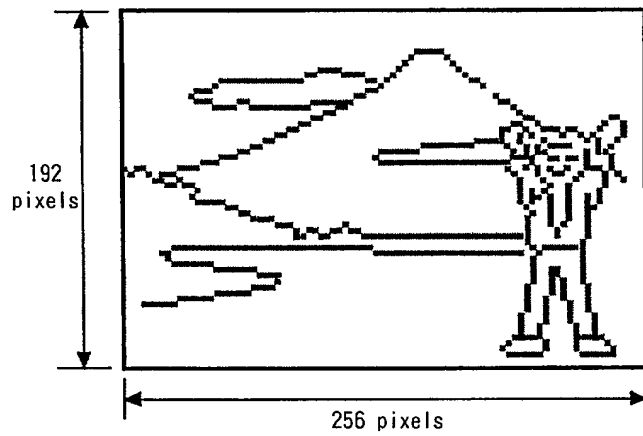


Fig. 31

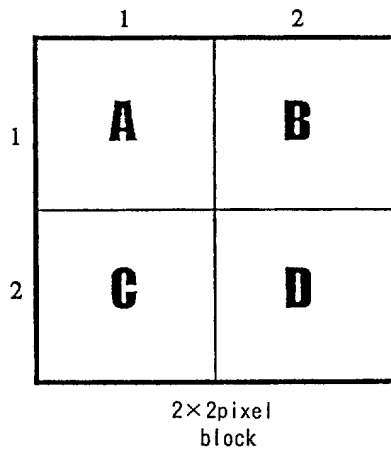


Fig. 32

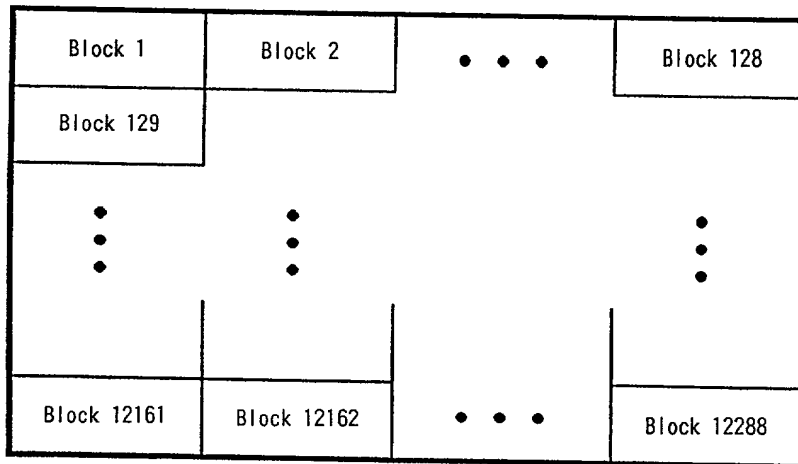



Fig. 33

2×2pixel block No.	2×2pixel block's pixel value				Embedding data's bit No. (1~96)	Embedding data allocation
	A	B	C	D		
1	1	5	2	5	31	1
2	5	8	9	2	21	0
3	2	10	9	5	18	1
4	1	11	5	5	65	0
5	10	2	25	1	7	1
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮
160	5	30	11	6	7	1
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮
12288	51	20	11	3	34	1

Fig. 34

(A)

	1	2
1	13	52
	A	B
2	164	0
	C	D



(B)

	1	2
1	12	52
	A	B
2	164	0
	C	D

Fig. 35

	1	2
1	166	252
	A	B
2	58	2
	C	D

Fig. 36

[A]

	1	2
1	21 A	101 B
2	253 C	0 D



[B]

	1	2
1	21 A	101 B
2	253 C	1 D

Fig. 37

	1	2
1	11 A	57 B
2	89 C	121 D

Fig. 38

Detected embedding data's bit number

	1	2	3	4	5		96
Blocks 1-96	Block 11 1 _A	Block 5 0 _B	Block 31 1 _A	Block 9 1 _A	0 _B	-----	1 _A
Blocks 97-192	Block 99 1 _A	Block 126 0 _B	Block 150 1 _A	Block 153 1 _A	0 _B	-----	Block 185 0 _B
Blocks 193-288	1 _A	0 _B	1 _A	Block 255 0 _B	0 _B	-----	Block 254 0 _B
Blocks 289-384	1 _A	Block 315 1 _A	1 _A	c	Block 316 1 _A	-----	1 _A
Blocks 385-480	Block 399 0 _B	Block 400 c	1 _A	1 _A	0 _B	-----	1 _A
Pairs 481-576	1 _A	0 _B	1 _A	1 _A	Block 520 1 _A	-----	1 _A
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮		⋮
Extraction result	1	0	1	1	0	-----	1

Repeat 128 times

☐ Mismatch

Fig. 39

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: ALTERATION DETECTION APPARATUS AND METHOD THEREOF

the specification of which (check one)

☒ is attached hereto.

_____ was filed on _____ as United States Application Number _____

or PCT International Application Number _____

and was amended on _____ (if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119(a)-(d) or §365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or §365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT International application, having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)			Priority Claimed
11-107055	Japan	14/April/1999	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	
11-158358	Japan	04/June/1999	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

_____	_____
(Application Number)	(Filing Date)
_____	_____
(Application Number)	(Filing Date)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 of any United States Application(s), or §365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States, or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to the patentability of this application as defined in 37 CFR §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

_____	_____	_____
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)
_____	_____	_____
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith (list name and registration number).

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Date

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PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Satoko Tonegawa, et al. Docket: 13458

Serial No.: Unassigned

Dated: March 22, 2000

Filed: Herewith

For: ALTERATION DETECTION APPARATUS AND METHOD THEREOF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

ASSOCIATE POWER OF ATTORNEY AND
REQUEST FOR CHANGE OF MAILING ADDRESS

Sir:

Applicant(s), by (his/her/their) attorneys of record,
hereby grant(s) an Associate Power of Attorney to:

RICHARD L. CATANIA, Reg. No. 32,608; FRANK S. DIGIGLIO, Reg.
31,346; KENNETH L. KING, Reg. No. 24,223; STEPHEN D. MURPHY,
Reg. No. 22,002; LEOPOLD PRESSER, Reg. No. 19,827; and JOHN S.
SENSNY,
Reg. No. 28,757


with full power of substitution to prosecute this application
and transact all business in the United States Patent and
Trademark Office in connection therewith.

Applicant(s) further request(s) that all future
correspondence in connection with this application be directed
and addressed to:

RICHARD L. CATANIA, ESQ.
SCULLY, SCOTT, MURPHY AND PRESSER
400 Garden City Plaza
Garden City, New York 11530

Direct all telephone calls to: (516) 742-4343.

Respectfully submitted:


Dr. Louis Herzberg
Registration No. 41,500